

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 23, 2022

CONTACT INFORMATION:  
Dallas Fridley, Regional Economist  
Dallas.W.Fridley@oregon.gov  
(541) 645-0005

## **Employment in the Columbia Gorge: July 2022**

### **Leisure and Hospitality Add Jobs While Public Schools Take Summer Break**

In July, Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady at 2.8%. Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ranked as Oregon's second lowest, tied with Sherman. Over the year, Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 1.5 percentage points.

Hood River County's nonfarm employment fell to 11,650 in July, a loss of 110 jobs. Private industry increased its total by 90 jobs, climbing to 10,420, and government cut 200, falling to 1,230. Leisure and hospitality led private industry in July, rising by 110 jobs to 2,280. Manufacturing increased its total by 20 jobs, rising to 1,870, and retail trade chipped in 20 to reach 1,460. Wholesale trade cut 90 jobs in July, falling to 330. In the public sector, local government education went on its annual summer break, cutting 220 jobs to total 450.

Hood River County's private industry employment rose by 2.6% over the year, adding 260 jobs. Food services and drinking places rose by 70 jobs over the year to lead private industry, an increase of 5.1%. Other services rose by 60 jobs over the year, an increase of 17.6%. Information (+40); arts, entertainment and recreation (+40); professional and business services (+30); education and health services (+30); and retail trade (+20) also added jobs over the year. Financial activities cut 30 jobs over the year, falling to 320. Local government education led the public sector, rising by 120 jobs over the year, while other local government chipped in 20.

Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.1 percentage point in July to 3.6% while ranking 15<sup>th</sup> among Oregon counties. Over the year, Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 1.4 percentage points.

Wasco County's nonfarm employment fell by 100 jobs in July, dropping to 10,230. Private industry increased its total by 80 jobs, rising to 8,390, and government cut 180, falling to 1,840. Leisure and hospitality led Wasco County's private industry, rising by 50 jobs in July to reach 1,420. Other industries gaining jobs in July included education and health services (+20); manufacturing (+10); information (+10); and professional and business services (+10). Construction cut 10 jobs in July, falling to 430 and retail shed 10, dropping to 1,630. Local government education cut 190 jobs in July as summer break commenced, dropping its total to 560.

Wasco County's private industry employment rose by 70 jobs or 0.8% over the year ending in July. Leisure and hospitality led private industry job growth, rising by 90 jobs or 6.8%. Construction increased its payrolls by 70 jobs over the year, climbing to 430 (+19.4%), and professional and business services rose by 40 to reach 600 (+7.1%). Other services rose to 410 jobs, and increase of 20 over the year. Education and health services cut its payrolls by 50 jobs, an over-the-year loss of 2.2%. Information cut 40 jobs over the year, falling to 270. Manufacturing cut 20 jobs and wholesale trade also shed 20. In the public sector, other local government rose by 30 jobs over the year to reach 700, while federal and state government each chipped in 10.

Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady in July at 3.3%, ranking eighth out of 36 Oregon counties. Over the year, Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 1.5 percentage points. Gilliam County's nonfarm employment fell by 10 jobs in July to total 810. Over the year, Gilliam County's private industry total fell by 20 jobs to 565, a loss of 3.4%. Government held steady over the year with 245 jobs.

Sherman County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.1 percentage point in July to 2.8%, good enough to rank second in Oregon, tied with Hood River. Over the year, Sherman County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 1.5 percentage points. Sherman County's nonfarm employment fell by 10 jobs in July to 950. Private industry increased its total by 15 jobs, climbing to 655, and government cut 30, falling to 295. Over the year ending in July, private industry rose by 15 jobs and government idled 25.

Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady at 2.7% in July, ranking as Oregon's lowest county unemployment rate. Over the year, Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.3 percentage point. Nonfarm employment totaled 300 in July, with private industry cutting five jobs and government shedding 15. Over the year ending in July, private industry added five jobs, rising to 190, and government cut five, falling to 110.

### Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department plans to release the August 2022 county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Sep. 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 and the statewide unemployment rate and employment survey data for August on Sep. 14<sup>th</sup>, 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/](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.

You can subscribe to receive notification of new articles and publications from [www.QualityInfo.org](http://www.QualityInfo.org). To subscribe, go to [www.qualityinfo.org/p-sofrm](http://www.qualityinfo.org/p-sofrm), enter your email address and click Sign In. In the Publication section, click on the + sign next to a report type category and then click on the geography(s) you are interested in. Take some time to browse the other publications on the page and see if there are some you'd like to receive an email notification for. You can receive notifications on a daily, weekly, or monthly schedule – whichever is most convenient for you. You can change your preferences – or unsubscribe – at any time.

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](http://www.WorkSourceOregon.org)

The Oregon Employment Department (OED) is an equal opportunity agency. Everyone has a right to use OED programs and services. OED provides free help. Some examples are: Sign language and spoken language interpreters, written materials in other languages, braille, large print, audio and other formats. If you need help, please call 971-673-6400. TTY users call 711. You can also ask for help at [OED\\_Communications@employ.oregon.gov](mailto:OED_Communications@employ.oregon.gov).

### Gilliam County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	July 2022	June 2022	July 2021	June 2022	July 2021
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	906	899	929	7	-23
Unemployed	34	33	46	1	-12
Unemployment rate	3.8%	3.7%	5.0%	0.1	-1.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.3%	3.3%	4.8%	0.0	-1.5
Employed	872	866	883	6	-11
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	810	820	830	-10	-20
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	790	785	810	5	-20
Total private	565	565	585	0	-20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	125	120	135	5	-10
Professional and business services	245	240	250	5	-5
Education and health services	65	65	70	0	-5
Leisure and hospitality	55	55	40	0	15
Government	245	255	245	-10	0
Federal government	10	10	10	0	0
State government	10	10	10	0	0
Local government	225	235	225	-10	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.

## Hood River County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	July 2022	June 2022	July 2021	June 2022	July 2021
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	16,077	14,782	15,722	1,295	355
Unemployed	468	468	734	0	-266
Unemployment rate	2.9%	3.2%	4.7%	-0.3	-1.8
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2.8%	2.8%	4.3%	0.0	-1.5
Employed	15,609	14,314	14,988	1,295	621
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	11,650	11,790	11,260	-140	390
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	11,880	11,850	11,470	30	410
Total private	10,420	10,330	10,160	90	260
Mining, logging, and construction	530	520	540	10	-10
Manufacturing	1,870	1,850	1,870	20	0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,990	2,050	1,960	-60	30
Wholesale trade	330	420	320	-90	10
Retail trade	1,460	1,440	1,440	20	20
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	200	190	200	10	0
Information	140	140	100	0	40
Financial activities	320	320	350	0	-30
Professional and business services	1,040	1,030	1,010	10	30
Education and health services	1,850	1,850	1,820	0	30
Leisure and hospitality	2,280	2,170	2,170	110	110
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	330	320	290	10	40
Accommodation and food services	1,950	1,850	1,880	100	70
Accommodation	520	490	520	30	0
Food services and drinking places	1,430	1,360	1,360	70	70
Other services	400	400	340	0	60
Government	1,230	1,460	1,100	-230	130
Federal government	150	140	160	10	-10
State government	100	110	100	-10	0
Local government	980	1,210	840	-230	140
Local education	450	700	330	-250	120
Local government excluding educational services	530	510	510	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.

## Sherman County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	July 2022	June 2022	July 2021	June 2022	July 2021
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	990	969	1,016	21	-26
Unemployed	28	25	43	3	-15
Unemployment rate	2.8%	2.6%	4.2%	0.2	-1.4
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2.8%	2.9%	4.3%	-0.1	-1.5
Employed	962	944	973	18	-11
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	950	960	960	-10	-10
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	915	915	925	0	-10
Total private	655	635	640	20	15
Trade, transportation, and utilities	350	335	325	15	25
Retail trade	140	135	140	5	0
Leisure and hospitality	110	105	120	5	-10
Government	295	325	320	-30	-25
Federal government	115	120	125	-5	-10
State government	40	40	40	0	0
Local government	140	165	155	-25	-15

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.

## Wasco County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	July 2022	June 2022	July 2021	June 2022	July 2021
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	18,185	16,430	17,645	1,755	540
Unemployed	516	473	697	43	-181
Unemployment rate	2.8%	2.9%	4.0%	-0.1	-1.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.6%	3.7%	5.0%	-0.1	-1.4
Employed	17,669	15,957	16,948	1,712	721
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	10,230	10,330	10,110	-100	120
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	10,050	10,080	9,930	-30	120
Total private	8,390	8,310	8,320	80	70
Mining, logging, and construction	490	500	420	-10	70
Mining and logging	60	60	60	0	0
Construction	430	440	360	-10	70
Manufacturing	540	530	560	10	-20
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,090	2,100	2,120	-10	-30
Wholesale trade	170	170	190	0	-20
Retail trade	1,630	1,640	1,640	-10	-10
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	290	290	290	0	0
Information	270	260	310	10	-40
Financial activities	310	310	320	0	-10
Professional and business services	600	590	560	10	40
Education and health services	2,260	2,240	2,310	20	-50
Ambulatory health care services	520	510	470	10	50
Nursing and residential care facilities	500	500	500	0	0
Leisure and hospitality	1,420	1,370	1,330	50	90
Accommodation and food services	1,290	1,260	1,190	30	100
Other services	410	410	390	0	20
Government	1,840	2,020	1,790	-180	50
Federal government	290	290	280	0	10
State government	280	270	270	10	10
Local government	1,270	1,460	1,240	-190	30
Indian tribal	10	10	10	0	0
Local education	560	750	560	-190	0
Local government excluding education and tribal	700	700	670	0	30

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.

## Wheeler County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	July 2022	June 2022	July 2021	June 2022	July 2021
<b>Labor Force Status</b>					
Civilian labor force	730	748	723	-18	7
Unemployed	20	19	20	1	0
Unemployment rate	2.7%	2.5%	2.8%	0.2	-0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2.7%	2.7%	3.0%	0.0	-0.3
Employed	710	729	703	-19	7
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Employment</b>					
Total nonfarm employment	300	320	300	-20	0
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	305	315	305	-10	0
Total private	190	195	185	-5	5
Trade, transportation, and utilities	40	35	35	5	5
Leisure and hospitality	40	40	25	0	15
Government	110	125	115	-15	-5
Federal government	5	5	5	0	0
State government	0	0	0	0	0
Local government	105	120	110	-15	-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.

###