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Employment in the Columbia Gorge: August 2022

Unemployment Rises from Recent Historic Lows in August

In August, Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose slightly to 2.9%. Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ranked as Oregon's second lowest, tied with Sherman and Washington. Over the year, Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 1.2 percentage points.

Hood River County's nonfarm employment rose to 11,830 in August, an increase of 180 jobs. Wholesale trade led private industry, adding 100 jobs to reach 430. Manufacturing rose to 1,900 (+30) and accommodation and food services reached 1,980 (+30). Hood River County remains about 410 jobs or 3.4% shy of its pre-pandemic high.

Hood River County's private industry employment rose by 1.8% over the year, adding 190 jobs. Leisure and hospitality led private industry, rising by 110 jobs over the year to reach 2,320. Other industries adding jobs included other services (+60); education and health services (+40); retail trade (+30); information (+30); and professional and business services (+30). Local government education led the public sector, rising by 120 jobs over the year to reach 450.

Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady in August at 3.6%, ranking 10th among Oregon counties. Over the year, Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 1.2 percentage points.

Wasco County's nonfarm employment fell by 30 jobs in August, dropping to 10,270. Leisure and hospitality led Wasco County's private industry, rising by 30 jobs in August to reach 1,470. Education and health services cut 30 jobs in August, falling to 2,220. Local government education cut 60 jobs in August, dropping its total to 560. Wasco County remains about 200 jobs or 1.9% shy of its pre-pandemic high.

Wasco County's private industry employment rose by 100 jobs or 1.2% over the year ending in August. Leisure and hospitality led private industry job growth, rising by 90 jobs or 6.5%. Construction increased its payrolls by 70 jobs over the year, climbing to 430 (+19.4%), and professional and business services rose by 50 to reach 610 (+8.9%). Education and health services cut its payrolls by

120 jobs, an over-the-year loss of 5.1%. In the public sector, local government rose by 40 jobs over the year to reach 1,270.

Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.3 percentage point in August to 3.6%, ranking 10th out of 36 Oregon counties. Over the year, Gilliam County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.9 percentage point. Gilliam County's nonfarm employment held steady in August with 815. Over the year, Gilliam County's private industry total fell by 45 jobs to 565, a loss of 7.4%. Government lost 10 jobs over the year, falling to 250.

Sherman County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.1 percentage point in August to 2.9%, ranking second in Oregon, tied with Hood River and Washington. Over the year, Sherman County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 1.2 percentage points. Sherman County's nonfarm employment rose by 10 jobs in August to 960. Over the year ending in August, private industry rose by 40 jobs to 660 and government lost 15 jobs, falling to 300.

Wheeler County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady at 2.7% in August, 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 295 in August, with private industry cutting five jobs and government holding steady. Over the year ending in August, private industry rose by 10 jobs to 185 as government cut five, falling to 110.

Next Press Releases

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

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.

Gilliam County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	August 2022	July 2022	August 2021	July 2022	August 2021
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	910	903	953	7	-43
Unemployed	41	33	42	8	-1
Unemployment rate	4.5%	3.7%	4.4%	0.8	0.1
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.6%	3.3%	4.5%	0.3	-0.9
Employed	869	870	911	-1	-42
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	815	815	870	0	-55
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	795	795	850	0	-55
Total private	565	570	610	-5	-45
Trade, transportation, and utilities	125	125	140	0	-15
Professional and business services	240	245	250	-5	-10
Education and health services	65	65	70	0	-5
Leisure and hospitality	55	55	45	0	10
Government	250	245	260	5	-10
Federal government	15	10	15	5	0
State government	10	10	10	0	0
Local government	225	225	235	0	-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

	--Change From--				
	August 2022	July 2022	August 2021	July 2022	August 2021
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	16,156	16,033	15,929	123	227
Unemployed	609	462	634	147	-25
Unemployment rate	3.8%	2.9%	4.0%	0.9	-0.2
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>2.9%</i>	<i>2.8%</i>	<i>4.1%</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>-1.2</i>
Employed	15,547	15,571	15,295	-24	252
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	11,830	11,650	11,520	180	310
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	<i>11,830</i>	<i>11,880</i>	<i>11,520</i>	<i>-50</i>	<i>310</i>
Total private	10,620	10,420	10,430	200	190
Mining, logging, and construction	530	530	540	0	-10
Manufacturing	1,900	1,870	1,910	30	-10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,100	1,990	2,140	110	-40
Wholesale trade	430	330	500	100	-70
Retail trade	1,470	1,460	1,440	10	30
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	200	200	200	0	0
Information	140	140	110	0	30
Financial activities	320	320	340	0	-20
Professional and business services	1,040	1,040	1,010	0	30
Education and health services	1,870	1,850	1,830	20	40
Leisure and hospitality	2,320	2,280	2,210	40	110
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	340	330	300	10	40
Accommodation and food services	1,980	1,950	1,910	30	70
Accommodation	530	520	520	10	10
Food services and drinking places	1,450	1,430	1,390	20	60
Other services	400	400	340	0	60
Government	1,210	1,230	1,090	-20	120
Federal government	140	150	160	-10	-20
State government	100	100	100	0	0
Local government	970	980	830	-10	140
Local education	450	450	330	0	120
Local government excluding educational services	520	530	500	-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

	--Change From--				
	August 2022	July 2022	August 2021	July 2022	August 2021
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	993	986	987	7	6
Unemployed	34	28	38	6	-4
Unemployment rate	3.4%	2.8%	3.9%	0.6	-0.5
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2.9%	2.8%	4.1%	0.1	-1.2
Employed	959	958	949	1	10
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	960	950	935	10	25
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	930	915	905	15	25
Total private	660	655	620	5	40
Trade, transportation, and utilities	350	345	310	5	40
Retail trade	140	140	135	0	5
Leisure and hospitality	105	110	110	-5	-5
Government	300	295	315	5	-15
Federal government	115	115	125	0	-10
State government	40	40	35	0	5
Local government	145	140	155	5	-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.

Wasco County Current Labor Force and Industry Employment

	--Change From--				
	August 2022	July 2022	August 2021	July 2022	August 2021
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	13,769	18,183	13,703	-4,414	66
Unemployed	573	510	685	63	-112
Unemployment rate	4.2%	2.8%	5.0%	1.4	-0.8
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	3.6%	3.6%	4.8%	0.0	-1.2
Employed	13,196	17,673	13,018	-4,477	178
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	10,270	10,300	10,100	-30	170
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	10,090	10,120	9,930	-30	160
Total private	8,430	8,400	8,330	30	100
Mining, logging, and construction	490	490	420	0	70
Mining and logging	60	60	60	0	0
Construction	430	430	360	0	70
Manufacturing	540	540	550	0	-10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2,100	2,090	2,060	10	40
Wholesale trade	170	170	170	0	0
Retail trade	1,630	1,630	1,610	0	20
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	300	290	280	10	20
Information	280	270	310	10	-30
Financial activities	310	310	320	0	-10
Professional and business services	610	600	560	10	50
Education and health services	2,220	2,250	2,340	-30	-120
Ambulatory health care services	510	520	470	-10	40
Nursing and residential care facilities	500	500	510	0	-10
Leisure and hospitality	1,470	1,440	1,380	30	90
Accommodation and food services	1,320	1,300	1,230	20	90
Other services	410	410	390	0	20
Government	1,840	1,900	1,770	-60	70
Federal government	290	290	270	0	20
State government	280	280	270	0	10
Local government	1,270	1,330	1,230	-60	40
Indian tribal	10	10	10	0	0
Local education	560	620	550	-60	10
Local government excluding education and tribal	700	700	670	0	30

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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--				
	August 2022	July 2022	August 2021	July 2022	August 2021
Labor Force Status					
Civilian labor force	719	729	702	-10	17
Unemployed	25	20	21	5	4
Unemployment rate	3.5%	2.7%	3.0%	0.8	0.5
<i>Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)</i>	2.7%	2.7%	3.0%	0.0	-0.3
Employed	694	709	681	-15	13
Nonfarm Payroll Employment					
Total nonfarm employment	295	305	290	-10	5
<i>Total nonfarm employment (seasonally adjusted)</i>	305	310	300	-5	5
Total private	185	195	175	-10	10
Trade, transportation, and utilities	40	40	40	0	0
Leisure and hospitality	35	40	20	-5	15
Government	110	110	115	0	-5
Federal government	5	5	5	0	0
State government	0	0	0	0	0
Local government	105	105	110	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.

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