

# Klickitat and Skamania Counties

## Labor Area Summary

### Volume 2021, Number 9



November, 2021

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## Monthly Review

Time, time, time, see what's become of me  
While I looked around for my possibilities...

*Hazy Shade of Winter*, Simon and Garfunkel

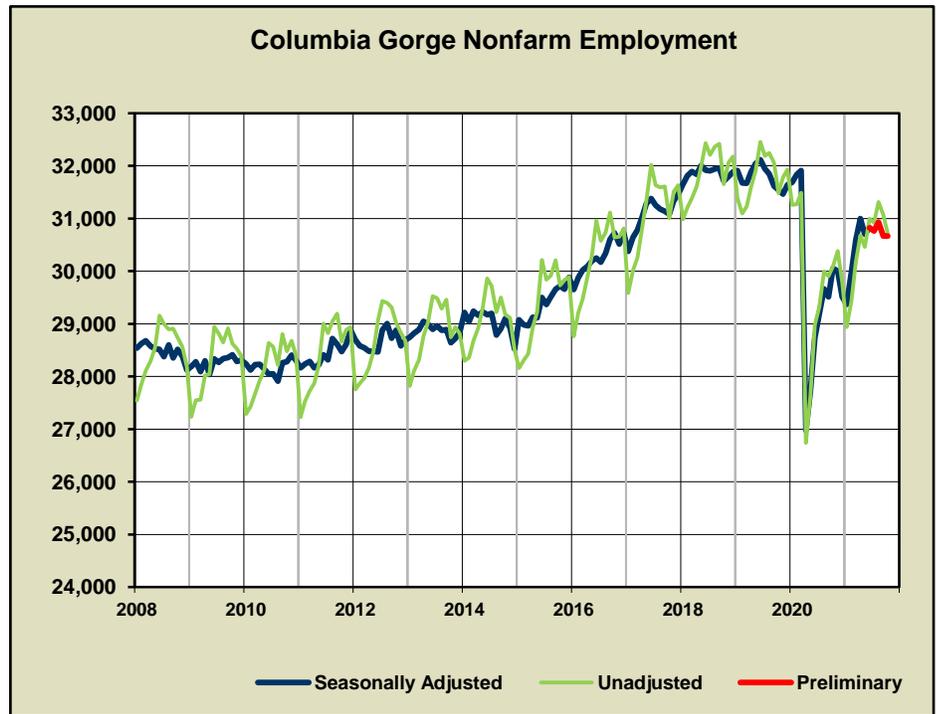
Sorry to be late, look for a full report with December numbers  
next week. Happy new year to all!

Nov. 2021 Unemployment Rates			
	Nov. 2021	Oct. 2021	Nov. 2020
<b>Seasonally Adjusted:</b>			
U.S.	4.2	4.6	6.7
U.S. U-6**	7.8	8.3	12.0
Washington	4.7	5.0	6.7
Oregon	4.2	4.4	6.6
Portland Metro	4.1	4.4	7.2
Columbia Gorge*	4.1	4.4	6.7
<b>Unadjusted:</b>			
U.S.	3.9	4.3	6.4
Washington	3.4	4.4	6.5
Oregon	3.4	3.4	6.1
Columbia Gorge*	3.4	3.6	5.8
Klickitat	3.9	4.4	6.5
Skamania	4.1	4.5	7.4
Hood River	2.7	2.6	5.0
Sherman	3.2	3.1	4.4
Wasco	3.6	3.6	5.6
Clark	3.4	4.1	6.7
Cowlitz	4.1	4.7	7.2
Wahkiakum	4.0	5.1	6.9
Portland Metro	3.2	3.4	6.4
*Includes Hood River, Klickitat, Sherman, Skamania, and Wasco counties.			
**See text for definition.			

## The Gorge

Employment in the Gorge rose by 40 jobs in November, after adjusting for seasonal trends. Since March, job counts have stayed between 30,600 and 31,000.

Unadjusted employment increased by 400 jobs over the month. Seasonal hiring in trade, transportation & utilities (+310, mostly in retail trade) was more than usual, and leisure & hospitality added 150, as winter recreational activities began. Local government gained 55 jobs (all in K-12 education) while education & health care was up 40 jobs. On the down side, manufacturing dropped by 60 and federal employment by 55.



Gorge Nonfarm Employment		
Month	Monthly Change	
	Not adjusted	SA
March	220	75
April	-4,750	-4,935
May	880	735
June	1,360	1,025
July	340	450
August	675	475
September	-90	-150
October	185	545
November	290	-55
December	-585	-485
January	-855	-150
February	495	620
March	750	620
April	495	395
May	-220	-295
June	540	120
July	-80	-55
August	395	165
September	-245	-265
October	-355	0
November	400	40
Net change		-1,130
Percent		-3.5%

Comparing November with February 2020, before COVID struck:

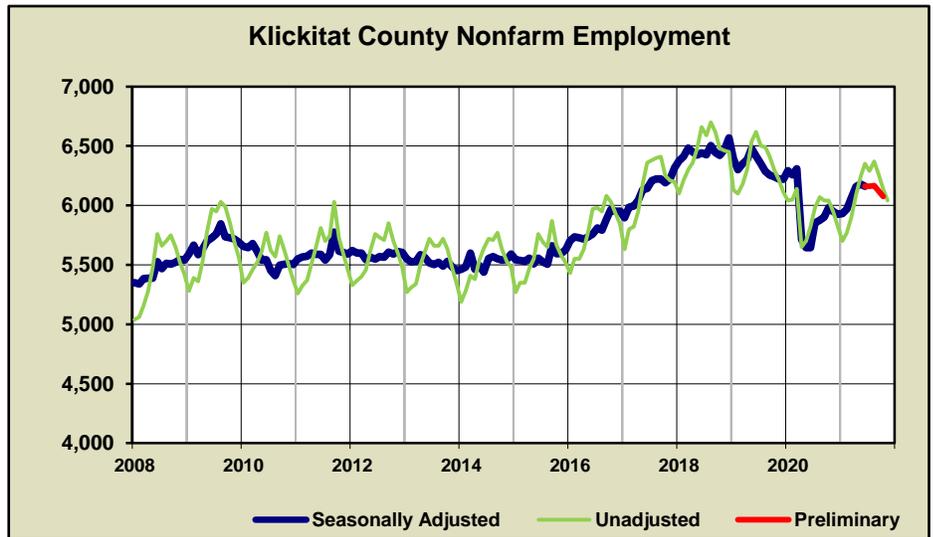
- Total nonfarm employment declined by 1,030 jobs, or 3.3 percent. This was a bit more than the nation (-2.6 percent), the state (-2.5 percent), and Oregon (-3.1 percent), while matching Portland metro.
- Mining, logging & construction employed 1,520 in November, which after seasonal adjustment was 30 jobs fewer February 2020 (-2.1 percent).
- Manufacturing employed 3,960; after adjustment, that was a drop of 195 jobs, a 4.8 percent decline.
- Trade, transportation & utilities had 6,050 employees, a gain of 205 jobs/3.8 percent after adjustment.
- Professional & business services employed 2,130, unchanged from pre-pandemic times.
- Education & health services, with 4,840 jobs, 50 jobs (+1.0 percent) above February 2020.
- Leisure & hospitality employment was estimated at 4,185 jobs, down 695 jobs, a 14.1 percent decline.
- All other service industries—including information services, finance and real estate and other services—employed 2,445, a loss of 245 jobs (-9.0 percent) over the course of the recession.
- Government declined by 215 jobs to 5,985, a -3.5 percent decline. The loss remained concentrated in K-12 education.

The unemployment rate for the Gorge was estimated at 3.4 percent. That was more than two points lower than the 5.8 percent from last November. The very unofficial seasonally-adjusted rate was unchanged at 4.4 percent.

## Klickitat Summary

Employment in Klickitat County slid for the third month in a row in November. Seasonally-adjusted nonfarm jobs fell by 100 over the month.

Unadjusted employment was estimated at 6,040 in November, down 100 over the month. Half of the loss was in manufacturing, while leisure & hospitality dropped by 30 jobs and local government outside of education was down 20 jobs. On the plus side, K-12 schools finished fall hiring by adding 30 staff.



Going back to the start of the pandemic, employment has declined by 220 jobs (-3.5 percent). On the plus side: retail trade (+60 jobs), professional & business services (+80 jobs) and education & health services (+40 jobs)..

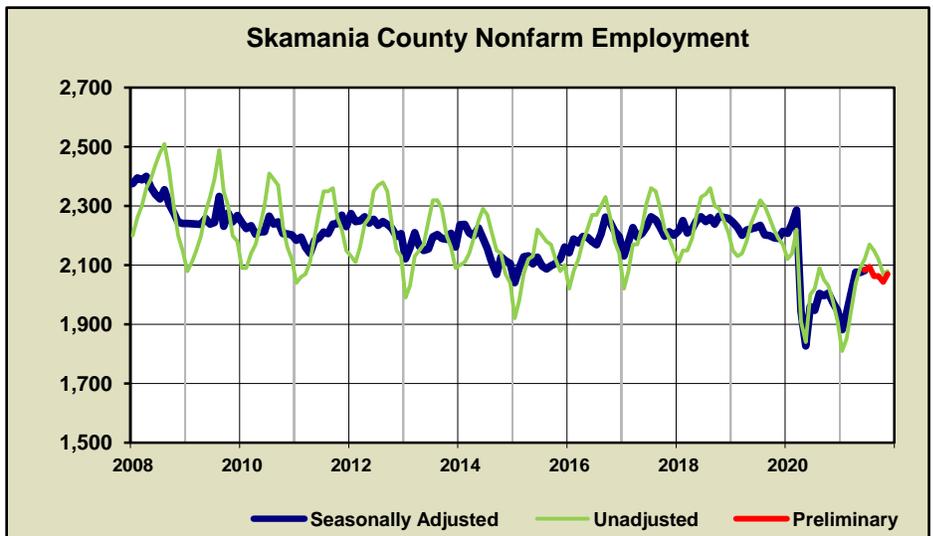
Job Loss Since February 2020	
Klickitat	-3.5 percent
Skamania	-8.0 percent
The Gorge	-3.5 percent
U.S.	-2.6 percent
Washington	-2.5 percent
Oregon	-3.1 percent
Portland Metro	-3.5 percent

On the down side: manufacturing (-250 jobs), leisure & hospitality (-60 jobs) and local government (-70 jobs, half in K-12, half in the county, cities and other local government districts).

The county unemployment rate was estimated at 3.9 percent, compared with 6.5 percent last November. About 380 county residents were jobless and looking for work, 230 fewer than a year ago.

## Skamania Summary

Nonfarm employment in Skamania County was little changed in November. Seasonally-adjusted job counts rose by 20 jobs, unadjusted by 10 jobs. Manufacturing was up 20 jobs over the month, while accommodations & food services dropped by 20 jobs. Total employment was estimated at 2,080 jobs, up 100 over the year but 190 jobs short of pre-pandemic levels. Trade, transportation & utilities has gained 30 jobs, and manufacturing has added 20. Accommodations & food services was still 180 jobs below February, 2020. “All other services”—information services, financial services, professional & business services, and other services—has dropped by 50 jobs, and K-12 education had 20 fewer staff.



The county’s estimated unemployment rate of 4.1 percent was more than three points below last November’s 7.4 percent. About 230 county residents were jobless and seeking work, 170 less than a year ago.