

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 24, 2011

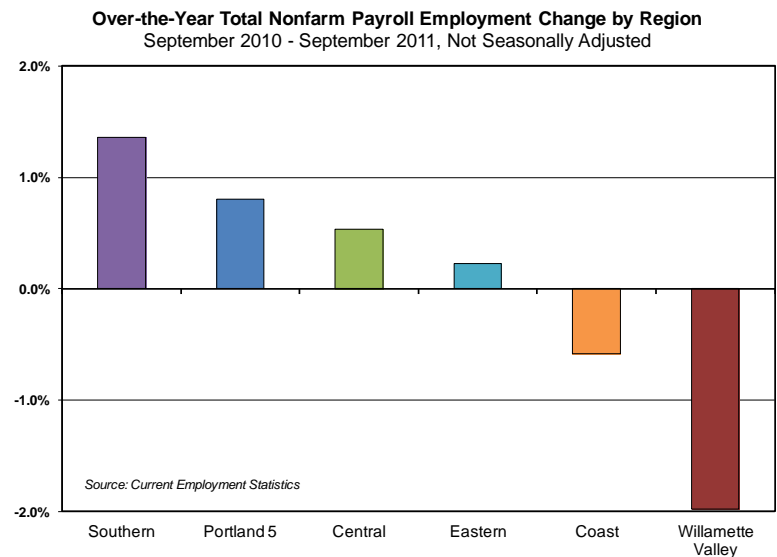
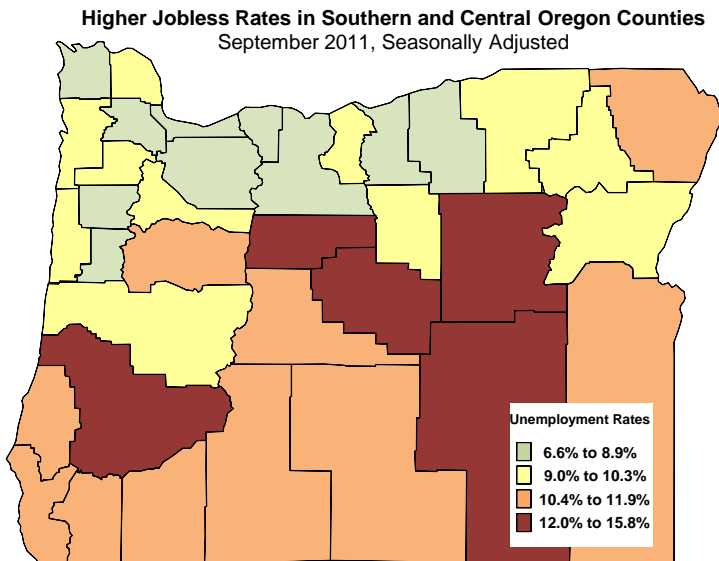
CONTACT INFORMATION: see Regional Information at [www.QualityInfo.org](http://www.QualityInfo.org)

## September 2011 Employment and Unemployment in Oregon's Counties

In September 2011, Benton County saw the lowest seasonally adjusted jobless rate (6.6%) of all Oregon counties, while Crook County had the highest rate (15.8%). Between September 2010 and September 2011, jobless rates declined in all but four counties. Rates rose in Morrow (+0.4 percentage point), Baker (+0.5), and Gilliam (+0.7) counties over the year. Unemployment dropped by 1 percentage point or more over the year in 16 counties. The largest declines occurred in Crook County (-2.1 percentage points) and Deschutes County (-2.0). Oregon's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 9.6 percent in September, and the U.S. rate stood at 9.1 percent.

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose between September 2010 and September 2011 for four of the state's six broad regions. Southern Oregon saw the largest employment gain over the year (1.4%), followed by Oregon's combined five Portland metro counties (0.8%). The combined Central Oregon counties (0.5%) and Eastern Oregon (0.2%) saw smaller increases over the year. Employment declines occurred in the Willamette Valley (-2.0%) and the coast region (-0.6%).

For additional information in your local area, please visit [www.QualityInfo.org](http://www.QualityInfo.org) and select an area on the Regional Information map.



## Next Press Releases

The Oregon Employment Department will release statewide unemployment rate and industry employment data for October on Wednesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, and the October county and metropolitan area unemployment rates on Monday, November 21<sup>st</sup>.