



For Release: Tuesday, August 11, 2020

20-1540-SAN

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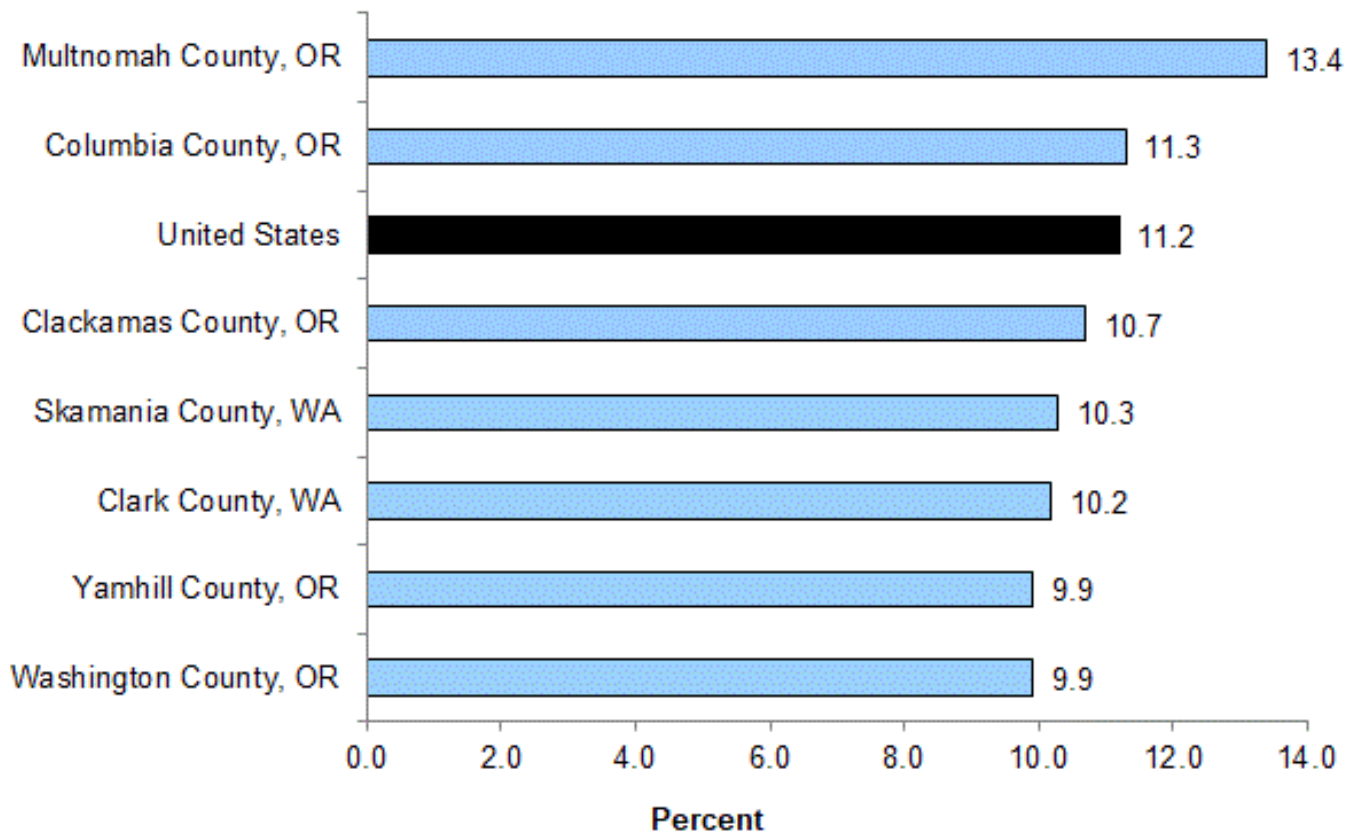
Technical information: (415) 625-2270 BLSinfoSF@bls.gov www.bls.gov/regions/west

Media contact: (415) 625-2270

Unemployment in the Portland Area by County, June 2020 **All Seven Counties had Higher Unemployment Rates than in the Previous Year**

In June, Washington and Yamhill Counties had the lowest unemployment rates in the Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA Metropolitan Statistical Area at 9.9 percent each, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Richard Holden, the Bureau's Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations, noted that Multnomah County had the highest unemployment rate, 13.4 percent. Five of the seven local-area counties had jobless rates below the national average of 11.2 percent. (See [chart 1](#). The Technical Note at the end of this release contains the metropolitan area definition. All data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, over-the-year analysis is used throughout.)

Chart 1. Unemployment rates for the United States and counties in the Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA Metropolitan Statistical Area, June 2020, not seasonally adjusted



In June 2020, all seven counties in the Portland area had over-the-year unemployment rate increases, with the largest increase in Multnomah County (+9.8 percentage points). Among the other six counties, jobless rate increases ranged from 7.0 percentage points in Clackamas County to 4.9 points in Skamania County. Nationally, the unemployment rate rose 7.4 percentage points from June a year ago. (See [table A](#)).

Table A. Unemployment rates for the United States, the Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA Metropolitan Statistical Area, and its components, not seasonally adjusted

Area	Unemployment rate			Change from	
	June 2018	June 2019	June 2020 ⁽¹⁾	June 2018 to June 2020 ⁽¹⁾	June 2019 to June 2020 ⁽¹⁾
United States.....	4.2	3.8	11.2	7.0	7.4
Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA MSA	4.0	3.8	11.4	7.4	7.6
Clackamas County, OR.....	3.8	3.7	10.7	6.9	7.0
Columbia County, OR.....	5.3	4.7	11.3	6.0	6.6
Multnomah County, OR.....	3.8	3.6	13.4	9.6	9.8
Washington County, OR.....	3.6	3.4	9.9	6.3	6.5
Yamhill County, OR.....	3.8	3.7	9.9	6.1	6.2
Clark County, WA.....	4.9	4.9	10.2	5.3	5.3
Skamania County, WA.....	5.4	5.4	10.3	4.9	4.9

Footnotes:

(1) Data for the Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA Metropolitan Statistical Area and its components are preliminary for the most recent month.

All seven counties in the Portland area had unemployment rate increases from June 2018 to June 2020. Multnomah County had the largest increase (+9.6 percentage points) while Skamania County had the smallest increase (+4.9 percentage points). Jobless rate increases in the other five counties ranged from 6.9 percentage points in Clackamas County to 5.3 points in Clark County. Nationally, the unemployment rate rose 7.0 percentage points over the two-year period.

The Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment news release for July 2020 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, September 2, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. (EDT).

Technical Note

This release presents unemployment rate data for states and counties from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program, a federal-state cooperative endeavor.

Definitions. The labor force and unemployment data are based on the same concepts and definitions as those used for the official national estimates obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a sample survey of households that is conducted for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) by the U.S. Census Bureau. The LAUS program measures employment and unemployment on a place-of-residence basis. The universe for each is the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and over. Employed persons are those who did any work at all for pay or profit in the reference week (the week including the 12th of the month) or worked 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or farm, plus those not working who had a job from which they were temporarily absent, whether or not paid, for such reasons as labor-management dispute, illness, or vacation. Unemployed persons are those who were not employed during the reference week (based on the definition above), had actively looked for a job sometime in the 4-week period ending with the reference week, and were currently available for work; persons on layoff expecting recall need not be looking for work to be counted as unemployed. The labor force is the sum of employed and unemployed persons. The unemployment rate is the number of unemployed as a percent of the labor force.

Methods of estimation. The LAUS program is a hierarchy of non-survey methodologies for indirectly estimating employment and unemployment in states and local areas. Statewide data are produced through a modeling technique that uses estimates of payroll jobs from the Current Employment Statistics survey and unemployment insurance claims counts from the state workforce agencies to mitigate volatility in the direct CPS tabulations of employment and unemployment, respectively. Data for labor market areas, such as metropolitan areas and metropolitan divisions, are produced through a building block approach and adjusted proportionally to state model-based totals. Data for counties within labor market areas are produced through a disaggregation technique. A detailed description of the LAUS estimation procedures is available in chapter 4 of the BLS Handbook of Methods at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/homch4.htm.

Annual revisions. Labor force and unemployment data for prior years reflect adjustments made at the end of each year, usually implemented with January estimates. The adjusted estimates reflect updated population data from the U.S. Census Bureau, any revisions in the other data sources, and model reestimation. All substate estimates are reestimated and adjusted to add to the revised model-based estimates.

Area definitions. The substate area data published in this release reflect the standards and delineations issued by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget on April 10, 2018. A detailed list of the geographic definitions is available at www.bls.gov/lau/lausmsa.htm.

The **Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)** includes Clackamas, Columbia, Multnomah, Washington, and Yamhill Counties in Oregon; and Clark and Skamania Counties in Washington.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.