

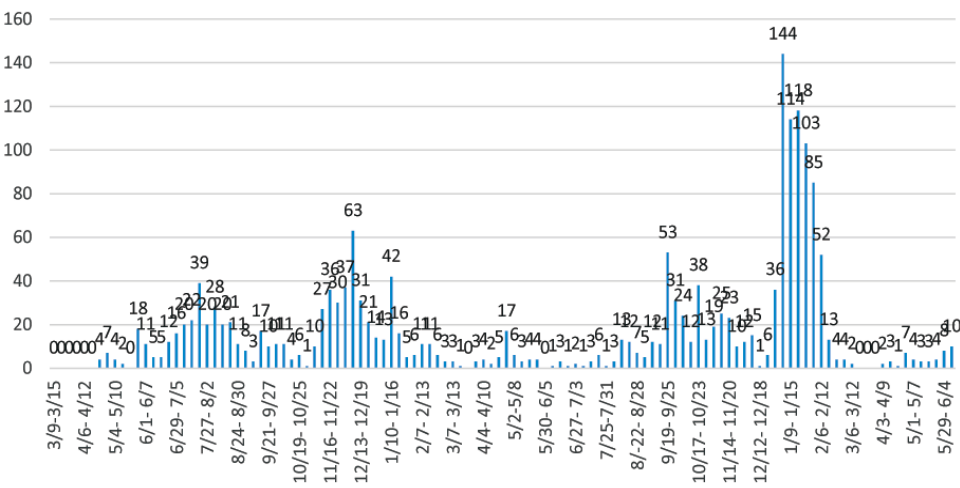


D.McMechan/Spilyay

Calvin Charley Jr. pitches for Warm Springs Nation Little League. The team, in the Minor Boys 9-11 division, played over the weekend in the District 5 Little League All-Star Tournament at Juniper Hills Park, Madras. *Congratulations players, team manager Nate Norwest, and coaches Vivian Carter-Smith and Sharmayne Frank.*

Community incidence of Covid-19

Warm Springs COVID-19 Epi Curve



A recent graph of the incidence of covid in the Warm Springs tribal community, showing the slight up-tick in cases in recent weeks.

Regional jobs near pre-covid level

Employment growth is beginning to slow across Central Oregon, including Jefferson County and the reservation.

This is actually good news, meaning that the jobless rate is about where it was before the pandemic.

The slower hiring is the result of the near-full recovery from the substantial covid layoffs of 2020 and 2021. In other words, job gains are becoming more consistent with normal seasonal patterns seen before the pandemic.

As such, unemployment rates are at or near historic low levels.

For Jefferson County, the unemployment rate was at 4.6 percent. The rate is fast approaching levels in February 2020, when it was 4.1 percent, just before the first impacts from Covid-19.

Total nonfarm employment rose by 150 jobs, slightly stronger gains than normal for this time of year.

According to the Oregon Employment Department: "Jefferson County has now largely recovered from the pandemic shock with the sea-

sonally adjusted total nonfarm employment of 6,700 in line with the pre-pandemic peak."

Jefferson County has added 220 jobs over the past year. Job gains were concentrated in leisure and hospitality (up 90 jobs) and wood product manufacturing (up 60 jobs). The only notable job losses over the past year were in professional and business services (down 20 jobs).

For Deschutes County, including Bend and Redmond, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 3.4 percent, a slight drop from 3.5 percent the previous month.

The difference between today's unemployment rate and the record low level of 3.3 percent before the onset of the pandemic is not statistically significant, according to the Employment Department.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that Deschutes County added 800 jobs just last month, marginally stronger gains than what is typical for this time of year.

The Bend metro area posted total nonfarm levels above 90,000 for the first time as the local labor market continues to expand. Employment levels are now higher than the level just before the pandemic. Total nonfarm employment expanded by 2.5 percent.

Deschutes County is no longer the fastest growing metro area in the state, as several metro areas that have been slow to recover from the pandemic shock saw faster job gains over the past year, including Portland, Eugene, Corvallis, and Albany.

Roughly half of the job gains over the past year in Deschutes County were concentrated in the hard hit leisure and hospitality sector.

Crook County: The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 4.8 percent.

The pre-pandemic level was 4.4 percent. Crook County added 100 jobs in May, slower growth than typical for this time of year.

Laborers for Kah-Nee-Ta project

The Warm Springs Economic Development Corporation seeks general laborers who are interested in working on the Kah-Nee-Ta renovation and rebuild project. The pay is \$15 an hour.

You must be able to work through heat and rain, and do some heavy lifting. Please complete an application at the Economic Development Office at the

industrial park, 4202 Holliday Street. For information call the office at 541-553-3207. You can also email in order to receive an application: sandra.danzuka@wstribes.org

Applicants must pass a drug test. And if hired, you must be able to go to and from Kah-Nee-Ta on a daily basis. These positions are open until filled.

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