

Summary

- Over the past three months, the country has experienced a steady rise in unemployment. In September, the national unemployment rate went up by 0.12% to 4.44% compared to August 2025.
- However, the unemployment rate in Columbia decreased by 0.35 percentage points in August, reaching 4.11%. Similarly, Missouri's unemployment rate declined by 0.18 percentage points to 4.48% during this period.
- The Federal Reserve cut the interest rate by 25 basis points at its two consecutive meetings, lowering the interest rate range from 4.25–4.50% in September to 3.75–4.00% in October.
- Due to the federal government shutdown, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) was unable to produce

consumer inflation for the month of October. BLS cannot measure inflation retrospectively; therefore, there is no new CPI data.

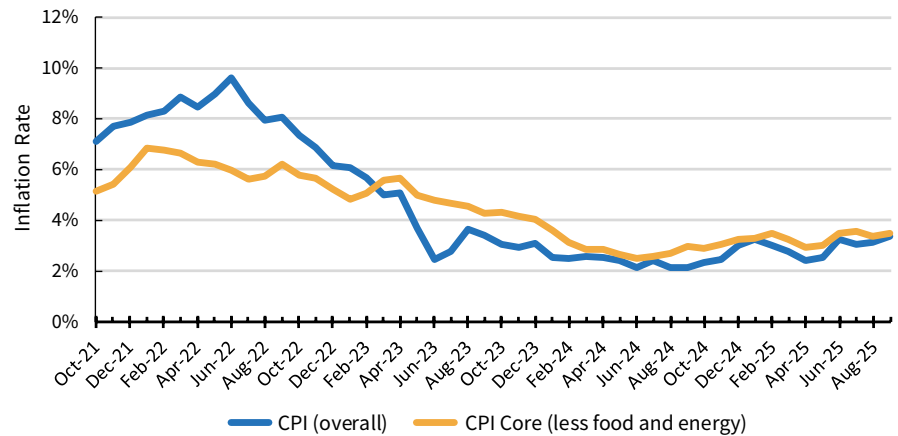
- In September 2025, the median home price in Boone County had no increase compared to last year. However, it did decrease by 5.71% over the last month. The median home price in September was \$330,000, which was \$50,100 higher than the median price in Missouri.
- During the same period, Boone County home sales totaled 165 — an annual increase of 13.01%.
- Sales tax collections in November (September tax period) totaled around \$5.41 million, while use tax collections came to \$940,008, respectively, 0.85% (\$46,532) and 22.08% (\$266,325) lower than those of the same month last year.

- As FY 2025 ends, the City of Columbia's total sales and use tax collections are around \$63.4 million and \$10.5 million, respectively. Total sales and use tax collection in FY 2025 has slightly declined by \$515,953 (-0.69%) compared to FY 2024.
- Marijuana-related excise tax collection in November (September tax period) was \$81,309. The total collections for FY 2025 are \$764,079, representing a 13.50% decrease from last year.

Note: All inflation measures are for Midwest cities with a population of less than 2.5 million.



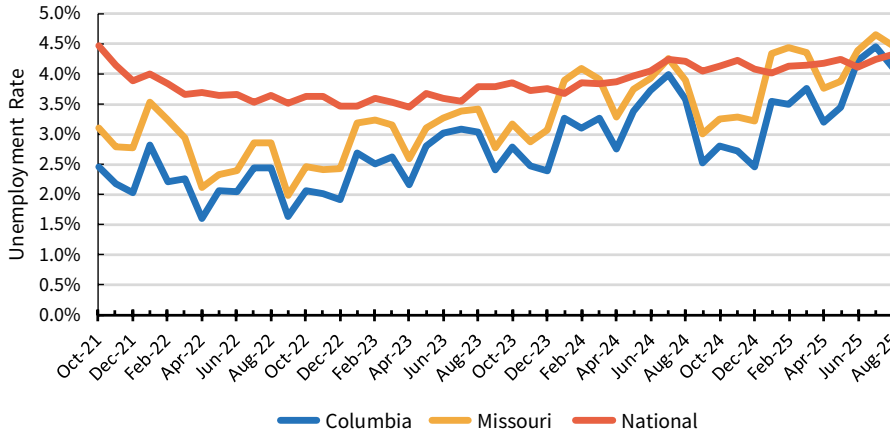
CHART 1: Monthly Consumer Inflation for Midwest Cities with Less Than 2.5M People



- Overall headline inflation increased year-over-year by 1.23%, from 2.10% last September to 3.33% in September 2025.
- Similarly, core inflation (less food and energy) increased by 0.50%, increasing from 2.96% last September to 3.45% this month.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics,
<https://beta.bls.gov/dataViewer/view/timeseries/CUURN200SA011E>
 Last Updated: 10/24/2025

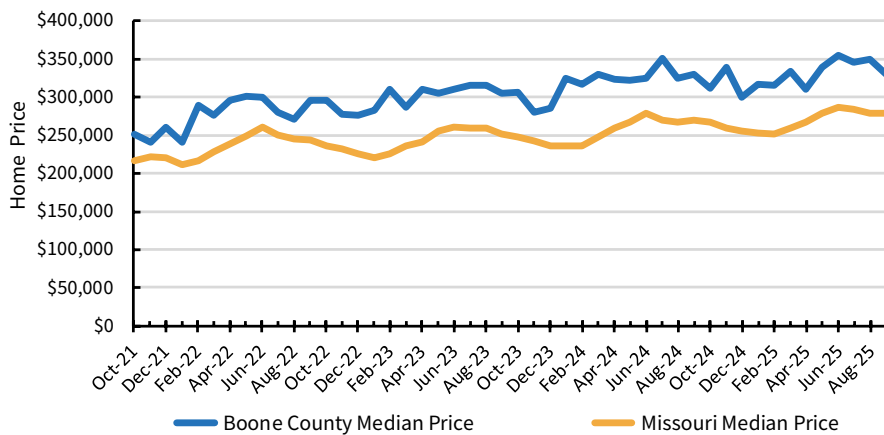
CHART 2: Columbia, Missouri, Monthly Unemployment Rate



Columbia's unemployment rate decreased by 0.35 percentage points, from 4.46% in July to 4.11% in August. Unemployment in Missouri decreased by 0.18 percentage points, while the national unemployment rate increased by 0.08 percentage points during this time.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, <https://beta.bls.gov/dataViewer/view/timeseries/LAUMT2917860000000004>
Last Updated: 11/24/2025

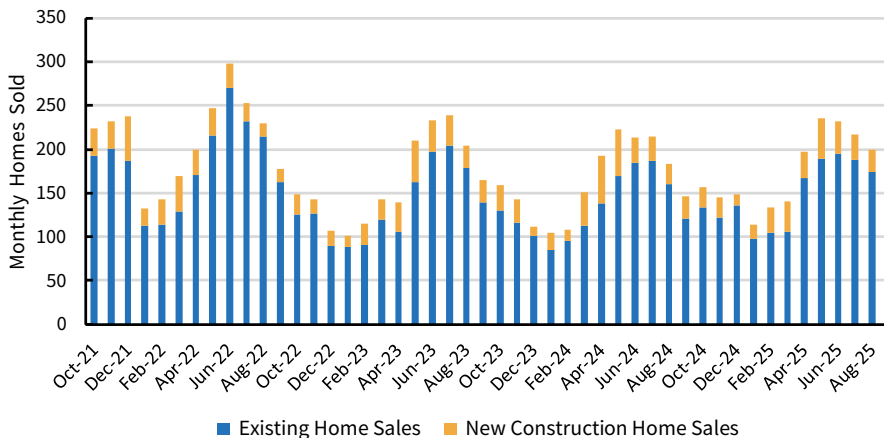
CHART 3: Boone County Single-Family Median Home Price



In September 2025, the median single-family home price in Boone County was \$330,000, remaining unchanged from last year but down 5.71% from August 2025. The median price of a single-family home in Missouri was \$279,900, 3.69% higher than the previous year.

Source: Columbia Board of Realtors, <https://www.midmohomefinder.com/page/statistics>
Last Updated: 11/24/2025

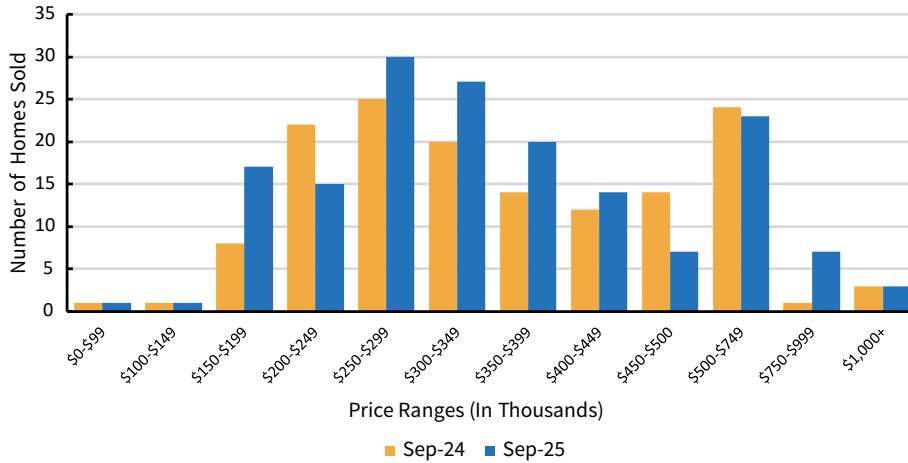
CHART 4: Boone County Monthly Home Sales



In September 2025, 165 single-family homes were sold, which is a 13.01% increase compared to the same month last year. However, single-family home sales dropped by 35 from August to September of this year.

Source: Columbia Board of Realtors, <https://www.midmohomefinder.com/page/statistics>
Last Updated: 11/24/2025

CHART 5: Boone County September Home Sales



- Housing in the \$0-149,999 price range continues to see fewer homes sold each month, a continuing trend in 2025, which is an affordability concern for low-income households.
- The demand for homes priced between \$250,000 and \$449,000 experienced a stark growth in September 2025 compared to last year.
- In contrast, homes priced between \$450,000 and \$749,999 saw fewer listings sold in 2025 compared to 2024, and this was the only month in 2025 that experienced such a decline, which may suggest that mid-income families are priced out.

Source: Columbia Board of Realtors, <https://www.midmohomefinder.com/page/statistics>

Last Updated: 11/24/2025

Glossary

Term	Definition
Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked at least 1 hour as a paid employee. • Worked at least 1 hour in their own business, profession, trade or farm. • Were temporarily absent from their job, business or farm, whether or not they were paid for the time off. • Worked without pay for a minimum of 15 hours in a business or farm owned by a member of their family.
Unemployment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They were not employed during the survey reference week. • They were available for work during the survey reference week, except for temporary illness. • They made at least one specific, active effort to find a job during the 4-week period ending with the survey reference week OR they were temporarily laid off and expecting to be recalled to their job.
Consumer Price Index (CPI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A measure of the average change over time in the prices paid by consumers for a representative basket of consumer goods and services. • The CPI measures inflation as experienced by consumers in their day-to-day living expenses.
Inflation Rate	<p>In this report, year-over-year changes in CPI are defined as inflation. The annual inflation rate is calculated every month as:</p> $\text{Inflation} = \frac{\text{CPI of latest month this year} - \text{CPI of same month last year}}{\text{CPI of same month last year}} \times 100$