



Bear Lake County

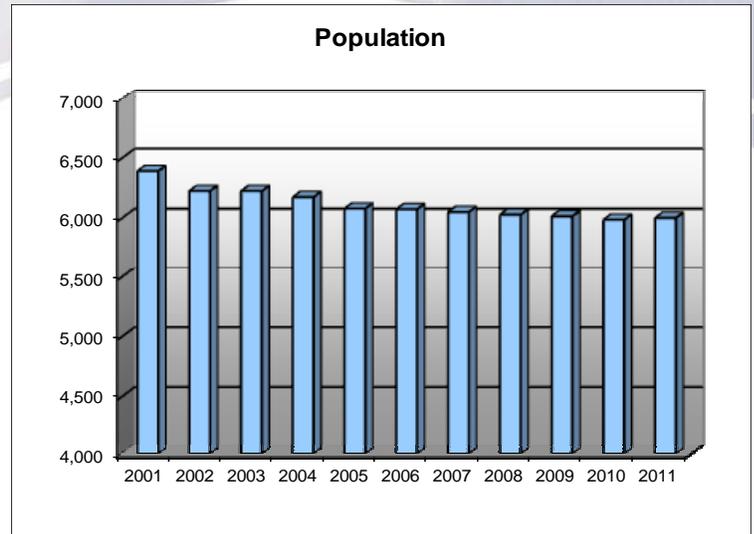
August 2012

Work Force Trends

Population

Bear Lake County was discovered during the early 1990s. Throughout that decade, half the population growth was spurred by development of affordable recreational homes near Bear Lake, also known as the “Caribbean of the Rockies” for its spectacularly blue water. During the last half of the 1990s, population fluctuated but held fairly steady. By 2002 with population at 6,164, the county started a slow but steady decline. By 2010 Census the population was at 5,986. 2011 population estimates place the county’s population at 6,001. The local communities in the county continue to work to promote tourism in order create jobs and retain youth in the community.

Montpelier, Bear Lake County’s largest city, is home to the Oregon/California Trail Interpretive Center. Other attractions include the historic Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints’ Tabernacle in Paris and Bear Lake National Wildlife Refuge near the north end of Bear Lake.



Labor Force & Employment

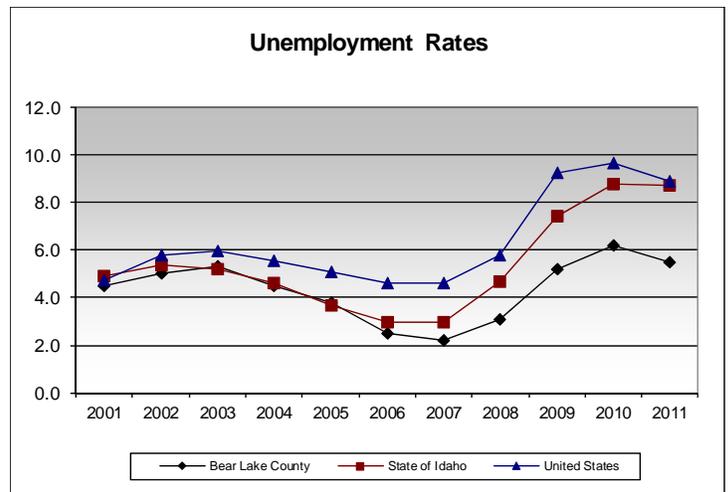
During the last 10 years, Bear Lake County’s labor market has been tight, providing jobs for most individuals who wanted to live in the county.

The unemployment rate has fluctuated between 5.5 percent in 2009 and 2.2 percent in 2007. In 2008 the rate increased to 3.2 percent, primarily because of job losses in the gas fields of western Wyoming and northern Utah. The rate rose even higher in 2009 as the recession tightened its grip.

The county’s civilian labor force increased 12.0 percent, or by 356 between 2001 and 2011. This growth is a positive sign for the county.

The largest nonfarm industries in Bear Lake County are leisure and hospitality, government and trade.

Government accounted for 39 percent of the nonfarm jobs in a county where the federal government manages 46 percent of the land. During the last decade the



industry composition has changed little with government, trade and services supplying most of the nonfarm jobs.

Tourism-related jobs may see increased growth because the Bear Lake Scenic Highway and the Oregon/California Trail Interpretive Center attract tourists driving between Salt Lake City and Jackson Hole, Wyo., and Yellowstone National Park.

Construction activity may increase again as the nation continues to pull out of the recession and resort properties, recently put on hold, resume being developed.

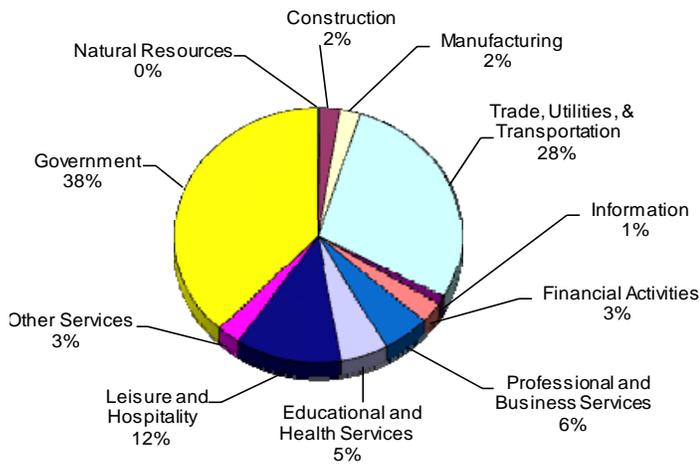
Labor Force	July 11	July 12
Civilian Labor Force	3,313	3,359
Total Employment	3,123	3,204
Unemployed	190	154
% of Labor Force Unemployed	5.7	4.6
State of Idaho % Unemployed	8.9	7.5
U.S. % Unemployed	9.1	8.3

Labor Force	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Civilian Labor Force	2,971	2,879	2,887	3,006	3,016	3,020	3,154	3,322	3,349	3,268	3,327
Unemployment	133	144	154	135	114	76	69	103	174	203	182
% of Labor Force Unemployed	4.5	5.0	5.3	4.5	3.8	2.5	2.2	3.1	5.2	6.2	5.5
Employment	2,837	2,735	2,733	2,871	2,902	2,945	3,085	3,219	3,175	3,065	3,144

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Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2011



Industry Employment & Wages

Because of Bear Lake County's tourism-based economy, trade, utilities, transportation and leisure and hospitality go hand in hand to provide 40 percent of all nonfarm jobs. But those jobs pay relatively low wages.

Government also provides 38 percent of the jobs, paying higher wages than most other industries.

Wages in Bear Lake County are lower than in most of the state due in large part to the dominance of tourism.

Major Employers

Alco Discount Store
Bear Lake County
Bear Lake County School District #33
Bear Lake Memorial Hospital
Broulims Foodtown
IVI Hotel Management
U.S. Forest Service
Walton Feed, Inc.

Occupational Wages*

Occupational Wages*	Starting Wage
Cashiers, Retail	\$7.25
Cooks	\$7.25
Food & Beverage Servers	\$7.25
Janitors	\$8.38
Construction Laborers	\$9.29
Maids	\$7.25
Nurses, Registered	\$22.23
Information & Record Clerks	\$8.39
Auto Mechanics	\$9.56
Teachers	\$16.98

* Additional occupational wage data can be found on the Department of Labor website at lmi.idaho.gov/.

Covered Employment & Average Annual Wages Per Job for 2001, 2010 & 2011	2001		2010		2011	
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
Total Covered Wages	1,455	\$18,278	1,633	\$24,822	1,677	\$24,330
Agriculture	5	\$15,929	*	*	*	*
Mining	0	\$0	*	*	4	\$100,135
Construction	34	\$14,183	31	\$18,898	41	\$30,191
Manufacturing	67	\$21,844	44	\$25,959	42	\$26,557
Trade, Utilities, & Transportation	382	\$16,867	412	\$21,709	432	\$21,497
Information	18	\$7,166	21	\$12,478	20	\$9,446
Financial Activities	62	\$18,269	48	\$26,894	46	\$26,508
Professional and Business Services	40	\$17,868	104	\$34,462	98	\$34,270
Educational and Health Services	75	\$15,257	94	\$20,438	97	\$16,344
Leisure and Hospitality	174	\$7,410	196	\$11,190	216	\$11,366
Other Services	22	\$13,781	20	\$19,322	27	\$16,642
Government	576	\$23,283	662	\$30,516	653	\$29,833

Per Capita Income	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Bear Lake County	\$19,476	\$19,782	\$20,594	\$21,625	\$23,018	\$23,515	\$25,684	\$27,974	\$27,792	\$28,940
State of Idaho	\$25,665	\$26,042	\$26,452	\$28,412	\$29,544	\$31,493	\$32,607	\$33,110	\$30,997	\$31,897
United States	\$31,157	\$31,481	\$32,295	\$33,909	\$35,452	\$37,725	\$39,506	\$40,947	\$38,846	\$39,937

This county is served by the office located at the address below:
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