



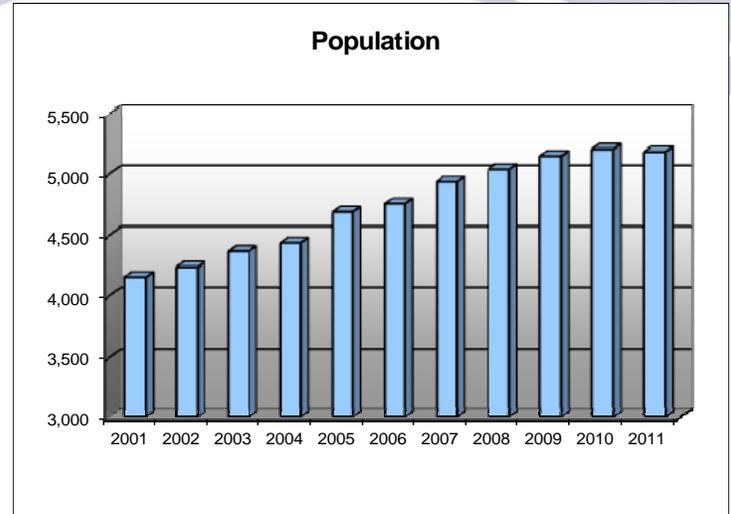
# Lincoln County

August 2012

## Work Force Trends

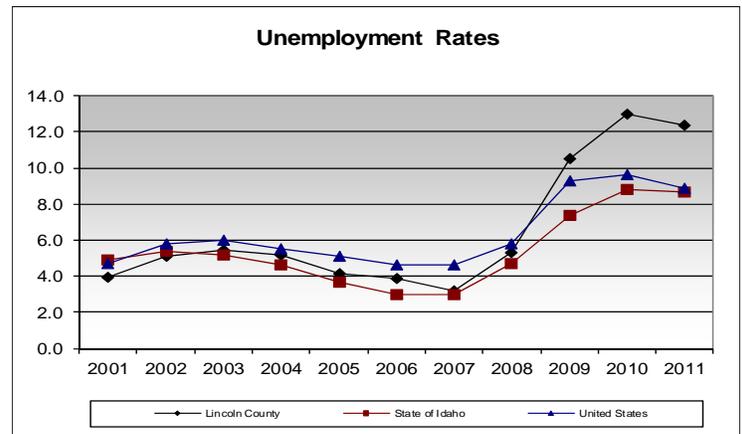
### Population

Lincoln County's population has risen 25 percent in the last 10 years to 5,186 in 2011, outpacing other counties in the region. The city of Shoshone, considered the gateway to Sun Valley, is the county seat with a population of 1,454. Lincoln County continues to rely on agriculture with several large dairies contributing to the industry's regional growth. Manufacturing was nearly nonexistent prior to Glanbia Food's whey processing plant in Richfield, 14 miles east of Shoshone, and Rocky Mountain Hardware, which machines high-end brass fixtures and hardware in Shoshone. As a bedroom community to both the Wood River Valley and Twin Falls, workers have an easy commute. Affordable housing continues to be an issue in the Wood River Valley so subdivisions and residential construction is expected to continue over the long term. Currently there is an inventory of building lots.



### Labor Force & Employment

Unemployment has been a roller coaster in Lincoln County. The seasonally adjusted rate peaked at 13 percent in 2010 from a record low of 3.2 percent in 2007. During the last three years, the unemployment rate has been in double digits, well above the state and national rates. Economic diversification has created new jobs over the last five years, mainly in manufacturing and the service sector. Dairies have brought stability to a workforce that traditionally sought jobs in seasonal industries such as tourism, landscaping and agriculture. Prior to the recession, retail had been popping up to serve the highway traffic between Twin Falls and the Wood River Valley. Manufacturing jobs are stable and raising area wages. Hay, grains, corn and other crops that can be green chopped for dairy silage are the primary commodities. The U.S. Bureau of Land Management's regional headquarters

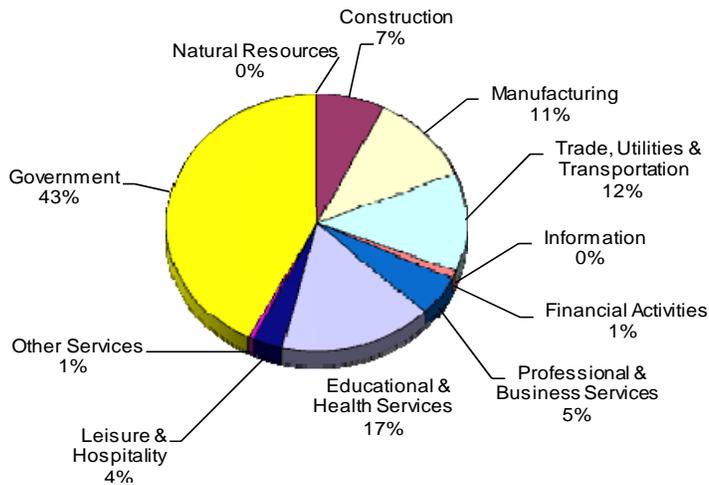


Labor Force	July 11	July 12
Civilian Labor Force	2,637	2,563
Total Employment	2,281	2,297
Unemployed	356	266
% of Labor Force Unemployed	13.5	10.4
State of Idaho % Unemployed	8.9	7.5
U.S. % Unemployed	9.1	8.3

and the National Interagency Fire Center dispatch operation are seasonal employers. The Idaho Transportation Department has a sizeable presence in Shoshone. The surrounding small communities all saw interest in new housing prior to the downturn. The county is expected to continue steady growth when the economy rebounds and those higher-paying jobs return to Blaine County.

Labor Force	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Civilian Labor Force	2,231	2,288	2,264	2,303	2,390	2,544	2,559	2,584	2,551	2,609	2,660
Unemployment	88	116	123	120	99	98	82	138	269	339	329
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.9	5.1	5.4	5.2	4.1	3.9	3.2	5.3	10.5	13.0	12.3
Employment	2,143	2,172	2,141	2,183	2,291	2,446	2,477	2,446	2,282	2,270	2,332

## Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2011



## Wages & Income

Per capita income in Lincoln County has grown steadily over the last decade but is still the lowest in the region at 13 percent less than the state per capita income and 30 percent less than the national figure. The county ranks 31st among the 44 counties. Many Lincoln County jobs are in services and agriculture, which tend to pay lower wages. From 2010 to 2011, Lincoln's Covered Average Employment increased by the highest percentage regionally, gaining 8 percent. Construction, business and professional services and education and health services contributors to the return to prerecession job levels.

### Major Employers

4 Brothers Dairy  
 AHS of Idaho  
 Big Wood Canal Company  
 Desano Place Inc.  
 Glanbia NA  
 Idaho Dept of Transportation  
 Lincoln County Care Center  
 Rocky Mountain Hardware  
 Sawtooth Cattle Company LLC  
 Sweet's Septic & Backhoe Service  
 U.S. Bureau of Land Management  
 Valley Co-Op

### Occupational Wages\* Starting Wage

Occupational Wages*	Starting Wage
Teachers	\$50,000.00
Bookkeepers	\$11.00
Cashiers	\$8.00
School Custodians	\$10.50
Cheese Processors	\$11.00
Receptionists	\$10.00
Fire Fighters	\$13.00
Milkers	\$11.00
General Farm Labor	\$10.41
Construction Labor	\$12.00

\* Additional occupational wage data can be found on the Idaho Department of Labor website at [lmi.idaho.gov](http://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
<b>Total Covered Wages</b>	1,174	\$22,516	1,345	\$28,876	1,453	\$29,228
<b>Agriculture</b>	143	\$19,669	253	\$26,900	318	\$27,057
<b>Mining</b>	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
<b>Construction</b>	79	\$24,359	80	\$27,752	87	\$27,110
<b>Manufacturing</b>	*	*	130	\$45,186	133	\$49,749
<b>Trade, Utilities &amp; Transportation</b>	163	\$13,247	131	\$20,154	127	\$21,808
<b>Information</b>	0	#DIV/0!	*	\$0	0	#DIV/0!
<b>Financial Activities</b>	14	\$12,639	13	\$15,078	12	\$16,462
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	23	\$20,796	52	\$28,650	60	\$28,430
<b>Educational and Health Services</b>	126	\$23,118	140	\$23,836	197	\$22,154
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	62	\$10,476	40	\$9,735	39	\$10,260
<b>Other Services</b>	*	*	5	\$25,930	6	\$24,131
<b>Government</b>	498	\$26,026	501	\$31,448	475	\$32,288

Per Capita Income	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
<b>Lincoln County</b>	\$21,940	\$21,489	\$20,634	\$22,964	\$22,747	\$23,985	\$28,084	\$30,069	\$25,803	\$27,694
<b>State of Idaho</b>	\$25,665	\$26,042	\$26,452	\$28,412	\$29,544	\$31,493	\$32,607	\$33,110	\$30,997	\$31,897
<b>United States</b>	\$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 listed below:  
 Idaho Department of Labor  
 420 Falls Avenue  
 Twin Falls, ID 83301 Ph: (208) 735-2500

[labor.idaho.gov](http://labor.idaho.gov)