



Power County

August 2012

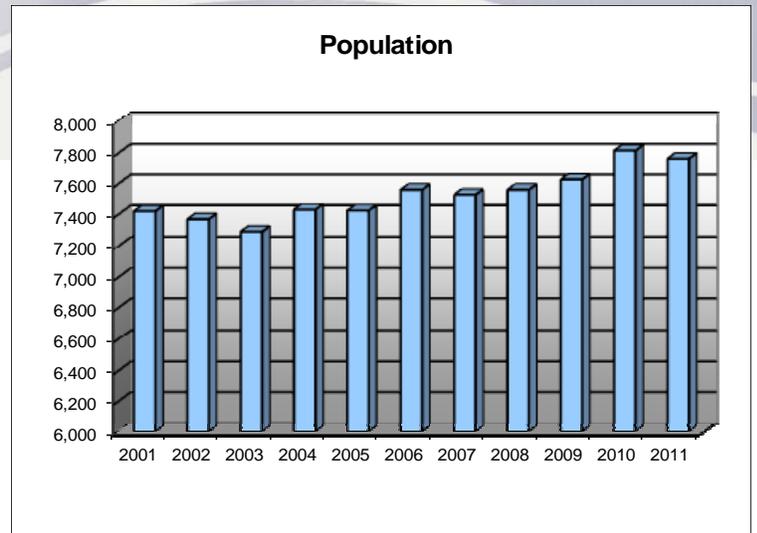
Work Force Trends

Population

Power County's population was relatively stable through the 2000s. Between 2000 and 2010 the county's population grew by 9.3 percent to 7,817. As of 2011 the population is estimated to be 7,766.

Natural growth and in-migration raised the population early in the decade. The loss of manufacturing jobs midway through forced people to look for work elsewhere. The population has seen several years of growth since 2004.

The American Falls Reservoir, the largest on the Snake River, sparkles as one of the best boating and fishing lakes in the state. It also provides irrigation water storage and hydroelectric power. The original American Falls, below the dam, adds stunning scenery to the county's lush and fertile farm land.

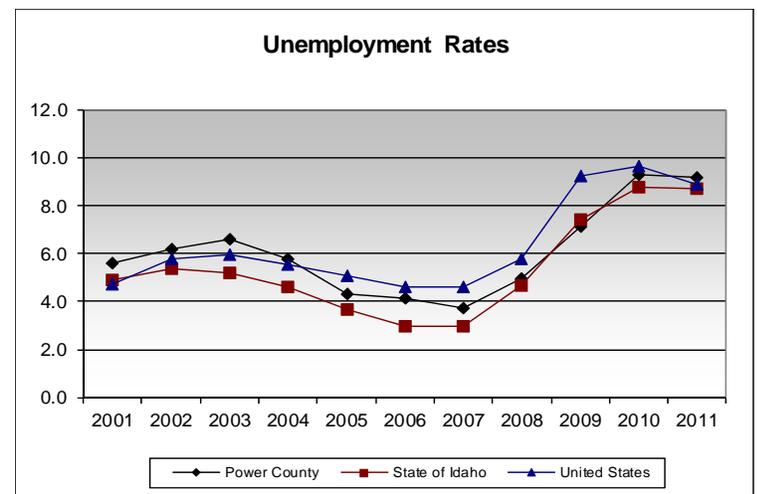


Labor Force & Employment

A diverse, skilled work force with an excellent work history is heavily dependent on agriculture and manufacturing related to it. National and regional economic fluctuations in agriculture kept unemployment high throughout the decade. The lowest rate at 3.5 percent came in 2007.

With agriculture and related manufacturing providing most of the county's employment, diversification is needed for future growth. The many marinas and beaches, excellent trout fishing and wind and water conditions draw tourists to American Falls.

The labor force changed little between 2000 and 2010. Because of seasonal layoffs in food processing, the county unemployment rate was comparatively high at 7.1 percent in 2009, and 9.3 in 2010. In 2011 the rate was 9.2 percent.



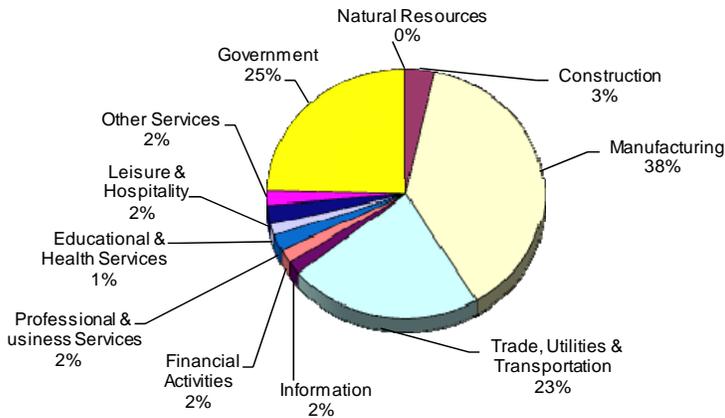
Employment, however, dropped in Power County from 3,405 in 2000 to 3,272 in 2010. Nearly all the loss was in manufacturing with the shutdown of the Astaris phosphate plant at the end of 2001.

In the recession, only two industries showed significant employment growth over the decade — agriculture and other services. Manufacturing lost almost 600 workers. The announced closure of Double L Manufacturing, and Simplot's Potato processing plant in nearby Aberdeen will spell more job losses for the county.

| Labor Force | July 11 | July 12 |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 3,651 | 3,727 |
| Total Employment | 3,280 | 3,434 |
| Unemployed | 371 | 293 |
| % of Labor Force Unemployed | 10.2 | 7.9 |
| 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 | 3,530 | 3,556 | 3,647 | 3,712 | 3,743 | 3,823 | 3,743 | 3,560 | 3,434 | 3,607 | 3,634 |
| Unemployment | 198 | 221 | 241 | 216 | 162 | 159 | 140 | 178 | 245 | 335 | 334 |
| % of Labor Force Unemployed | 5.6 | 6.2 | 6.6 | 5.8 | 4.3 | 4.1 | 3.7 | 5.0 | 7.1 | 9.3 | 9.2 |
| Employment | 3,332 | 3,335 | 3,405 | 3,497 | 3,581 | 3,665 | 3,602 | 3,382 | 3,188 | 3,272 | 3,300 |

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2011



Industry Employment & Wages

Even though the number of manufacturing jobs decreased from 2000 to 2011, the industry still provides 38 percent of covered employment and pays Power County's second highest wages.

Government accounts for 25 percent of the jobs with many in public education.

The average covered wage of \$35,733 ranks well among all Idaho counties, influenced by the large percentage of workers in manufacturing, where the average wage is \$47,571. However, the county's per capita income is low when compared to the rest of Idaho.

Major Employers (Private)

| |
|---------------------------|
| Con Agra |
| County Line Farms |
| Driscoll Potatoes |
| Double L Manufacturing |
| Great Rift Transportation |
| Ken's Food Market |
| J. R. Simplot Company |
| Koompin Farms |
| Lance Funk Farms |

Occupational Wages*

Starting Wages

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| Cashiers, Retail | \$7.25 |
| Food Processing Workers | \$10.03 |
| Food & Beverage Serving Workers | \$7.25 |
| Janitors & Cleaners | \$9.34 |
| Construction Laborers | \$9.46 |
| Maids | \$7.25 |
| Nurses, Registered | \$23.78 |
| Information & Record Clerks | \$8.50 |
| Auto Mechanics & Service Techs | \$9.57 |
| Teachers | \$18.84 |

* Additional occupational wage data can be found on the Idaho 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 | 3,941 | \$29,916 | 3,092 | \$33,315 | 3,241 | \$35,733 |
| Agriculture | 402 | \$20,625 | 433 | \$27,135 | 488 | \$27,933 |
| Mining | 0 | \$0 | 0 | \$0 | 0 | \$0 |
| Construction | 254 | \$27,756 | 52 | \$29,315 | 97 | \$50,788 |
| Manufacturing | 1,546 | \$42,947 | 1,041 | \$42,728 | 1,056 | \$47,571 |
| Trade, Utilities & Transportation | 643 | \$21,570 | 591 | \$29,639 | 621 | \$31,803 |
| Information | 31 | \$26,901 | * | * | * | * |
| Financial Activities | 85 | \$19,403 | 53 | \$28,406 | 49 | \$28,422 |
| Professional and Business Services | 103 | \$21,008 | 57 | \$65,020 | 58 | \$65,113 |
| Educational and Health Services | 40 | \$19,823 | 35 | \$27,544 | 42 | \$23,843 |
| Leisure and Hospitality | 121 | \$5,709 | 61 | \$8,349 | 69 | \$8,807 |
| Other Services | 39 | \$15,597 | 51 | \$26,436 | 51 | \$26,624 |
| Government | 677 | \$22,958 | 673 | \$27,446 | 663 | \$26,951 |

| Per Capita Income | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Power County | \$19,577 | \$19,983 | \$18,628 | \$21,533 | \$21,973 | \$22,492 | \$25,590 | \$28,341 | \$26,302 | \$24,551 |
| 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 |

Information provided by U.S. Census Bureau



This county is served by the office listed below:
 Idaho Department of Labor
 430 N. Fifth Ave.
 Pocatello, ID 83205-4087 Ph: (208) 236-6710

labor.idaho.gov

This publication is produced by Idaho Department of Labor funded at least in part by federal grants from the U.S. Department of Labor.

Costs associated with this specific publication are available by contacting Idaho Department of Labor.

Idaho Department of Labor is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Dial 711 for TTY Idaho Relay Service.