

Idaho Employment

A monthly update of
Idaho's economic health in your area

IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Franklin Basin by April Keyser

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C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER, GOVERNOR

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ROGER B. MADSEN, DIRECTOR

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RECESSION ERODES IDAHO JOBS WITH SELF-SUFFICIENT WAGES

Idaho's economic expansion following the 2001 national recession provided the strongest period of wage growth since the double-dip recessions of the 1980s. But even with that growth – about 14 percent between 2004 and 2006 – 40 percent of the state's jobs at the expansion's peak paid enough to support the traditional family of four at a minimal level.

A year into the latest national recession has seen that figure drop to less than 36 percent in 2008.

Using the U.S. Department of Labor's annual determination of the smallest paycheck workers can earn and still support themselves and their families, 373,000 of the 622,000 jobs the Idaho economy supported in 2006 paid less than the minimum required to support a couple and two children without assistance – \$32,885 a year, or a full-time job paying \$15.81 an hour, in rural counties and \$34,154 a year, or a full-time job paying \$16.42 an hour, in metropolitan counties.

2008 Monthly Family Budgets for Minimum Self-Sufficiency

Expense	Family Size		
	Four	Three	Two
Income	\$3,000	\$2,433	\$1,767
Food	\$738	\$599	\$435
At home	\$648	\$526	\$382
Out	\$90	\$73	\$53
Rent	\$417	\$338	\$246
Home expenses	\$81	\$66	\$48
Transportation	\$246	\$200	\$145
Clothing	\$231	\$187	\$136
Personal Care	\$96	\$78	\$57
Medical Care	\$390	\$316	\$230
Misc Expenses	\$123	\$100	\$72
Other Expenses	\$147	\$119	\$87
SSA & Disability	\$231	\$187	\$136
Income Taxes	\$300	\$243	\$177

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Percent of Jobs in Idaho Paying Self-Sufficiency Family of Four, by Year		
	Urban	Rural
2003	39.1%	40.4%
2006	39.7%	40.9%
2008	35.9%	39.8%

Family of Three by Year		
	Urban	Rural
2003	52.7%	52.1%
2006	55.2%	56.2%
2008	49.8%	53.6%

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Idaho Department of Labor

The statistics, based on the U.S. Department of Labor's Lower Living Standard Income Level and Idaho's Occupational Employment and Wage Report, provide some insight into the state's relatively high level of underemployment and its high level of multiple job holders. In 2008, over 12 percent of workers either had part-time jobs and wanted full-time work or had jobs that paid less or provided less responsibility than their qualifications warranted. From 2003 to 2006, over 8 percent of Idaho workers held down more than one job. Fewer than a dozen other states in any of those years had higher multiple jobholder rates. Idaho's rate slipped to 6.5 percent in 2007, the most recent year available, but remained 17th highest in the nation.

The Lower Living Standard Income Level is keyed to a budget that provides for housing, clothing, food and other basic necessities. The annual budget was last established by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics in 1981 and has been adjusted for inflation. It is the U.S. Department of Labor's measure of minimum self-sufficiency. For the traditional family of four, the 2008 budget allocated \$417 a month for rent and utilities with another \$81 for other household expenses, \$738 a month for food and \$246 for transportation out of an income of around \$3,000.

The income level is calculated for a family of four in both urban and rural settings in the four regions of the country – the Northeast, Midwest, South and West – and then statistically adjusted for households from one to six people. Except for specific income levels set for the Denver, Seattle, San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Diego metropolitan areas, the rest of the West including Idaho uses the same urban and rural incomes. Of Idaho's 400,000 family households, nearly 20 percent have four people, just over 20 percent have three and 44 percent have two.

The urban counties in Idaho, which typically have higher Lower Living Standard Income Levels, are Ada, Canyon, Kootenai, Nez Perce, Bannock, Twin Falls, Bonneville, Bingham and Jefferson.

During the expansion of the mid-2000s, Idaho was creating jobs faster than just about every other state, but only fractionally more of those jobs were paying a self-sufficiency wage. From 2003 to 2006, the percentage of both urban and rural jobs paying enough to make a family of four self-sufficient rose from 39.4 percent to 40.1 percent. The improvement was slightly better for families of three where jobs paying enough rose from 52.5 percent to 55.5 percent.

But since 2006 and the peak of Idaho's expansion, Idaho paychecks have not kept pace. In 2008, half the jobs carried paychecks large enough to support a family of three, and just under 37 percent paid enough for a family of four to be self-sufficient.

The loss of over 13,000 high-paying construction jobs since 2006 and 9,000 better-paying manufacturing jobs had a significant impact. Employers have also held wages in check and in some cases reduced them to cope with the recession just as they did in 2001. But while the average wage in 2001 held its own, rising a fractional 0.2 percent from 2000, preliminary figures for 2008 show the average wage declined by 0.7 percent from 2007.

Since 2006 Idaho's job base has been shifting toward typically lower-paying service sector jobs. At the peak of the expansion in 2006, 80.8 percent of all jobs were in services, essentially the same percentage recorded during the

2003 Idaho Lower Living Standard Income Levels

Family Size	Urban Minimum	Jobs Paying at Self - Sufficiency	% of Urban Jobs	Rural Minimum	Jobs Paying at Self - Sufficiency	% of Rural Jobs
One	\$5.48	411,644	100%	\$5.29	147,767	100%
Two	\$8.98	298,874	72.6%	\$8.67	107,926	73.0%
Three	\$12.33	216,902	52.7%	\$11.90	77,028	52.1%
Four	\$15.22	160,895	39.1%	\$14.69	59,629	40.4%
Five	\$17.96	120,943	29.4%	\$17.33	44,481	30.1%
Six	\$21.00	108,985	26.5%	\$20.27	37,806	25.6%

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Idaho Department of Labor

2006 Idaho Lower Living Standard Income Levels

Family Size	Urban Minimum	Jobs Paying at Self - Sufficiency	% of Urban Jobs	Rural Minimum	Jobs Paying at Self - Sufficiency	% of Rural Jobs
One	\$5.91	453,202	100%	\$5.70	168,974	100%
Two	\$9.69	327,888	72.3%	\$9.33	127,654	75.5%
Three	\$13.30	250,351	55.2%	\$12.81	95,004	56.2%
Four	\$16.42	180,133	39.7%	\$15.81	69,055	40.9%
Five	\$19.38	127,063	28.0%	\$18.66	53,315	31.6%
Six	\$22.67	92,279	20.4%	\$21.82	43,970	26.0%

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Idaho Department of Labor

2008 Idaho Lower Living Standard Income Levels

Family Size	Urban Minimum	Jobs Paying at Self - Sufficiency	% of Urban Jobs	Rural Minimum	Jobs Paying at Self - Sufficiency	% of Rural Jobs
One	\$6.35	477,543	100%	\$6.13	171,364	100%
Two	\$10.40	342,301	71.7%	\$10.05	125,899	73.5%
Three	\$14.28	237,642	49.8%	\$13.79	91,770	53.6%
Four	\$17.63	171,311	35.9%	\$17.02	68,174	39.8%
Five	\$20.80	128,746	27.0%	\$20.09	51,555	30.1%
Six	\$24.34	94,286	19.7%	\$23.50	37,912	22.1%

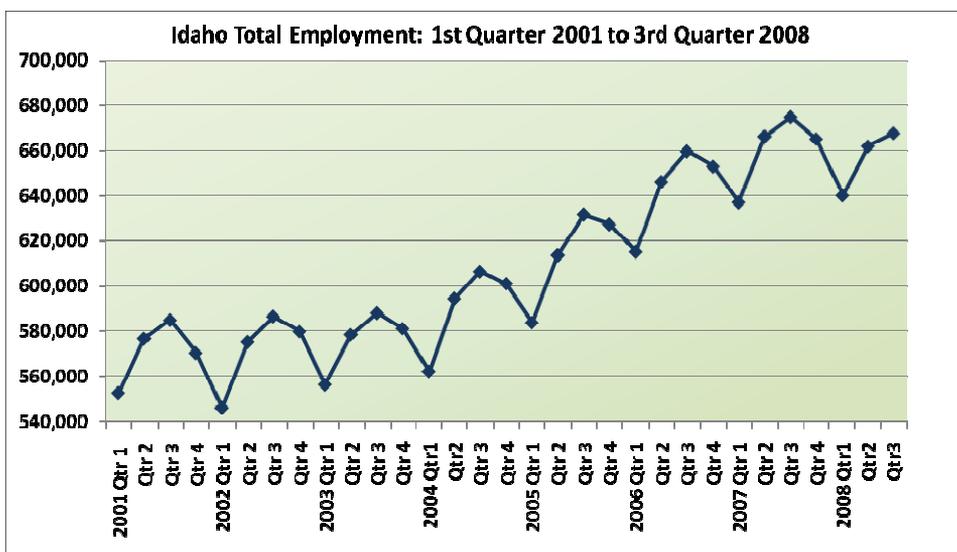
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Idaho Department of Labor

2001 recession. In 2008, the service sector claimed 82.6 percent of the jobs. Job losses in construction and manufacturing dropped the production side of the economy to 17.4 percent. Service sector jobs paid an average of \$15.40 an hour in 2008 while production jobs paid \$19.66. That was an even wider gap than in 2006 when the average wage for service jobs was \$14.89 compared to \$18.36 in the production sector.

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SEASONAL JOB GROWTH DROPS IN THIRD QUARTER

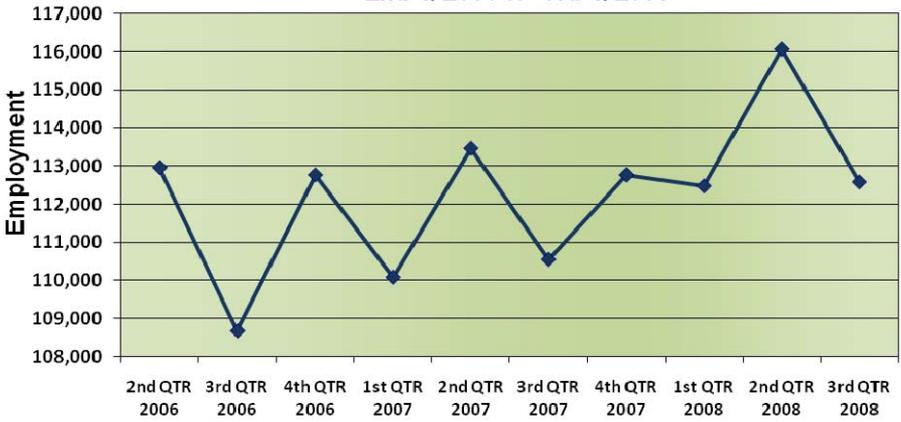
Employment increased to 667,875 from the second to the third quarters of 2008. Only 5,957 jobs were added from the previous quarter, and there were 7,199 fewer jobs in the third quarter 2008 than in the third quarter 2007, the weakest performance in the last 10 years. The national recession essentially eliminated seasonal job growth. Sixteen industries posted modest job gains, from 54 in wholesale trade to 2,166 in agriculture and forestry.



Average private-sector jobs for the quarter were up 6,776, or 1.2 percent, from the second quarter but down 12,511, or 2.23 percent, from a year earlier. Limited seasonal hiring in some sectors was eclipsed by job losses in others. Government, including education, averaged 112,582 jobs in the third quarter, down by 3,485 or 3 percent, from the second. That reflects the normal second-to-third quarter decrease for government employment with the end of school for the summer. *See figure 1 on page 5*

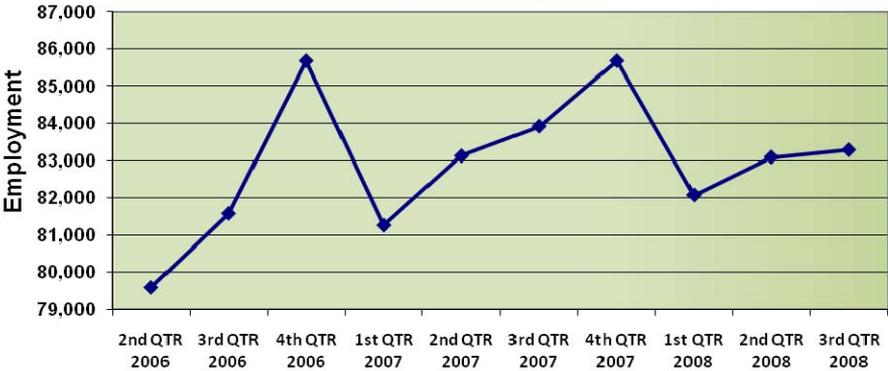
After retail trade posted its smallest second quarter job gain since 2001, the third quarter was expected to pick up, but that did not happen. Job growth was fractional in retail trade – less than 200 or 0.2 percent. The only weaker third quarter was in 2001 at less than 100 additional jobs. Motor vehicles and part dealers shed 373 jobs, and building material and garden supply stores lost 257. These sectors were offset by food and beverage retail stores, which gained 216 jobs, clothing at 226 and general merchandise at 340. *See figure 2 on page 5.*

**Figure 1. Public Administration Employment:
2nd Q 2006 to 3rd Q 2008**



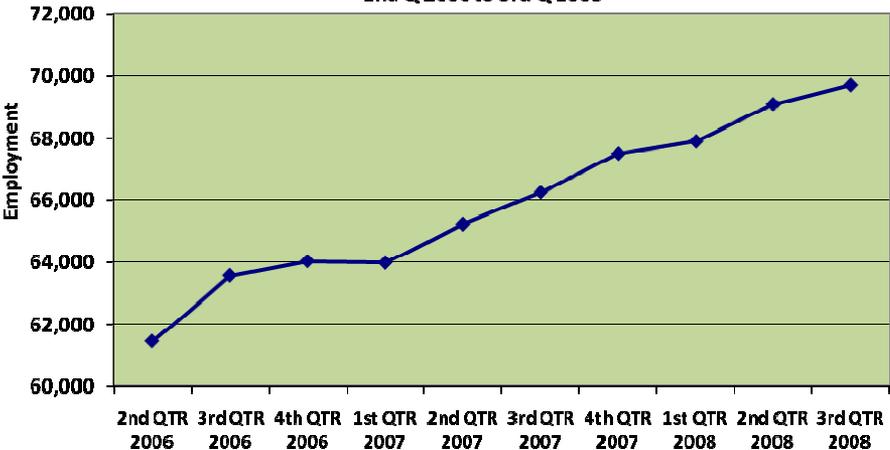
Health care continued its steady growth, but it was much shallower than

**Figure 2. Retail Trade Employment:
2nd Q 2006 to 3rd Q 2008**

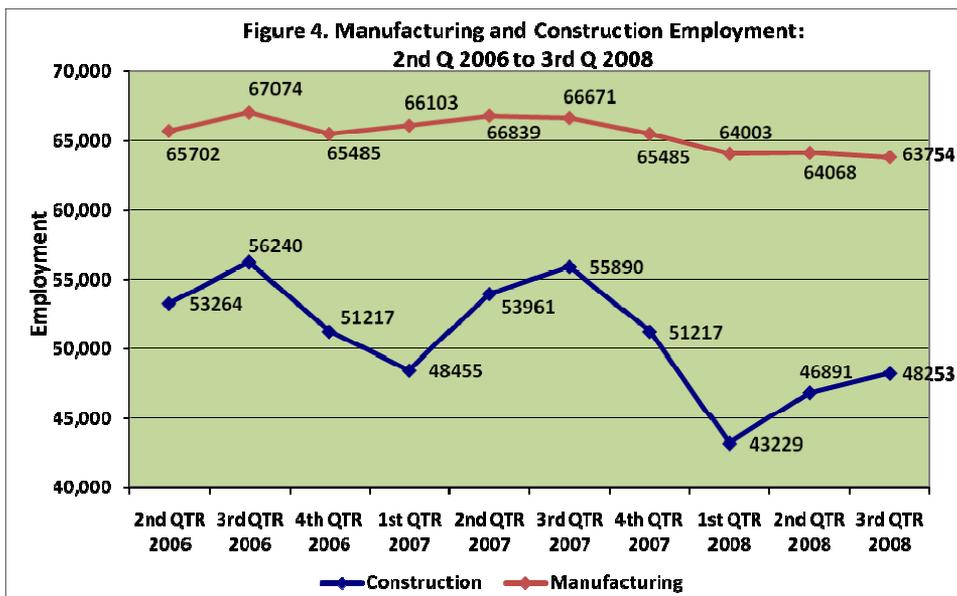


the previous two years. In 2006 the sector grew by 3.4 percent and added another 1.5 percent in 2007. Third quarter growth in 2008 was 0.9 percent, or 623 jobs, barely half the job growth health care recorded in the second quarter. Nursing and residential care facilities picked up 288 jobs, hospitals added 198 and social assistance picked up 176 to lead the industry. Ambulatory health care services was the only area to lose jobs, mainly in home health care services. See figure 3.

**Figure 3. Health Care and Social Assistance Employment:
2nd Q 2006 to 3rd Q 2008**



The weakness of the second quarter persisted into the third quarter for construction, which gained just 1,300 jobs. This industry lost 7,637 jobs in the previous year, the highest year-over-year jobs loss in the last 10 years. Heavy and civil engineering construction added 621 jobs, half the monthly gain in what may reflect increased activity in highway and other infrastructure construction generated by the federal stimulus package. Specialty trades added 487 jobs while another 254 jobs were generated in construction of buildings. Over the year specialty trade contractors have lost the most jobs, 4,855, followed by the 2,432 lost in construction of buildings. See figure 4.



Manufacturing resumed its job losses after holding its own in the second quarter. The third quarter loss was 315. Durable goods saw 697 jobs disappear, bringing the year-over-year loss to 3,400. The second-to-third quarter loss in durables was partially offset by a 382-job gain in nondurable goods, which was also up 482 jobs from the third quarter of 2007. See figure 4.

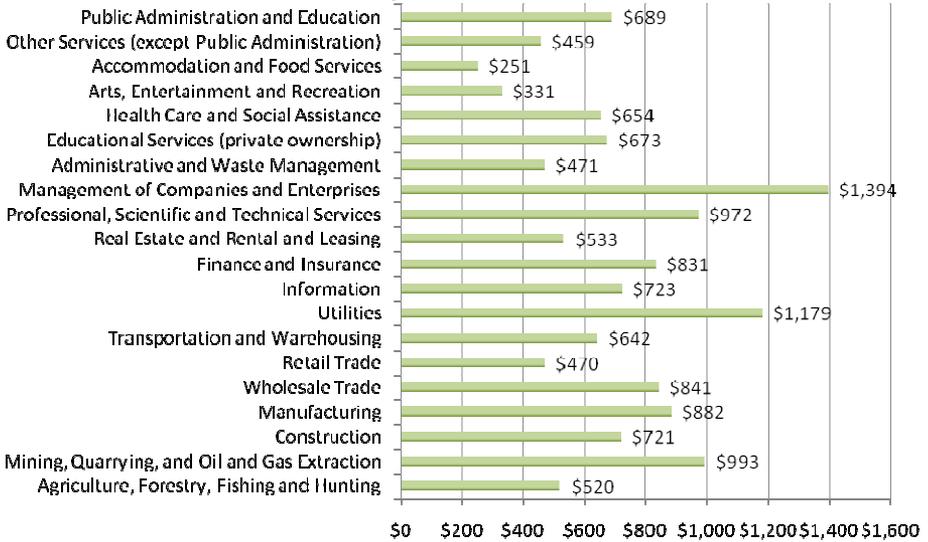
Finance and insurance gained 56 jobs from the second to third quarters to be up 215 from a year earlier. Gains came in credit intermediation and related services and funds, trusts, and other financial vehicles to offset losses by insurance carriers and related activities. Administrative, support and waste management services picked up 696 jobs from the second quarter, but the year-over-year loss remained at 2,227.

WAGES

During the third quarter of 2008, Idaho’s average weekly wage for all industries was \$643. The lowest wages were reported in accommodations and food services at \$251, a \$13 increase from the second quarter, and leisure activities at \$331, which was a \$29 increase. Company management recorded the highest wage at \$1,394 a week, which is \$56 less than the previous quarter. Utilities followed at \$1,179, up \$118 gain from the second quarter, and mining at \$993, down by \$67. See figure 5 on page 7.

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**Figure 5. Idaho Weekly Average Wage by Industry
Third Quarter 2008**

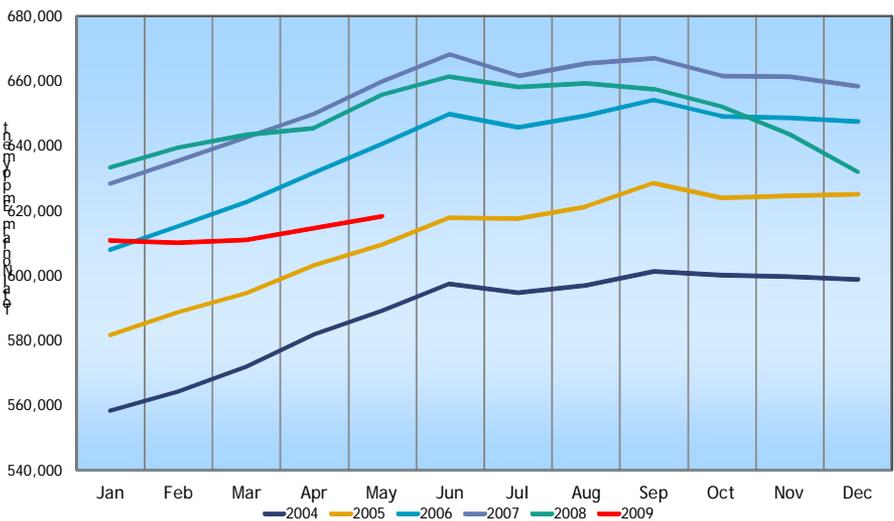


NONFARM JOB GROWTH REMAINS LOW IN MAY

April's nonfarm job total was revised up slightly to remain just 4.8 percent below April 2008, an improvement compared to March's year-over-year decline of 5 percent. But even though May added 3,600 jobs from April, it was just a third of the April-May job increase of a year ago. It also left total jobs in May at 5.7 percent below May 2008. If jobs remain at this shallow rate, June's year-over-year deficit will likely widen.

Manufacturing, education, health care and other services experienced month-to-month declines. For manufacturing it was the 22nd consecutive decline as jobs fell 0.3 percent from April. This loss continues to come from the technology sector. Education and health care fell 0.3 percent in May, mainly the result of schools ramping down as students head out for vacation. Health care, while some segments have not escaped job losses, continued to fare better overall than other sectors during this recession, showing a month-to-month gain of 0.5 percent.

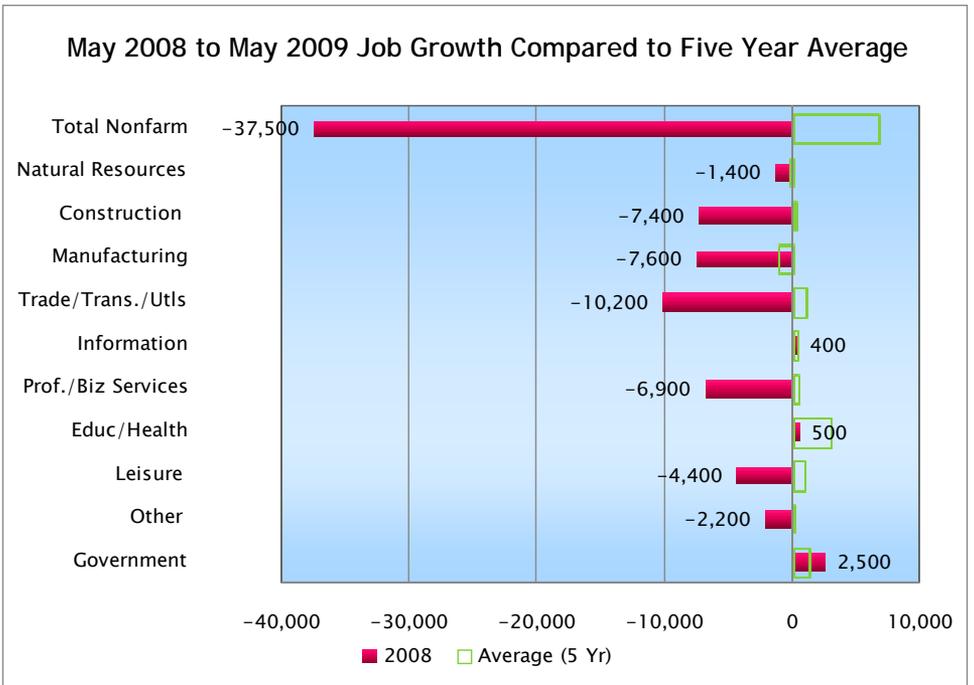
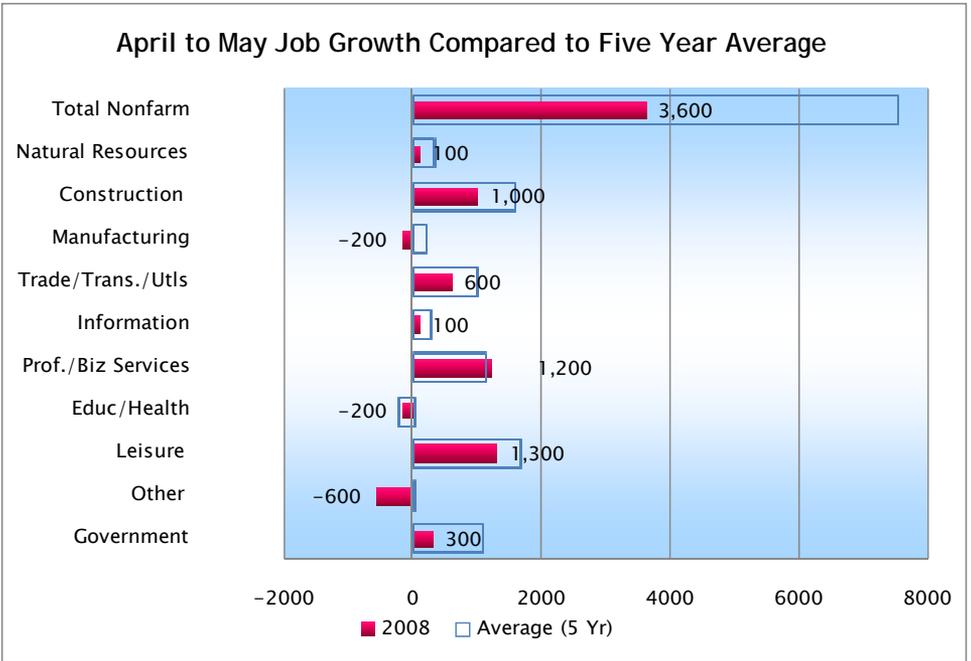
Idaho's Total Nonfarm Jobs Growth January 2004 to May 2009



Construction experienced a 2.5 percent increase in May, barely half the 4.1 average April-May increase of the last few years. There were almost 7,500 fewer jobs than last May, a loss of 15.9 percent. Construction has lost 30 percent of the jobs it had at its peak of 56,500 in August of 2007.

Professional and business services increased 1.6 percent. The 1,200 jobs added in May came mainly in services to buildings and dwellings, which posted a substantial seasonal increase as landscapers got to work in the warmer weather. See figures below.

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Area and County Developments

PANHANDLE

Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, Kootenai & Shoshone counties

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

- The Idaho Panhandle National Forest received nearly \$10 million in federal stimulus funds to address a backlog of road repairs and bridge work needed to maintain access to popular hunting, picnicking and huckleberry-picking areas. The forest's annual road budget is \$1.6 million. The projects include \$6.7 million for Bonner County, \$2.4 million for Shoshone County and \$530,000 for Kootenai County.

COUNTY DEVELOPMENTS

BENEWAH COUNTY

- The Success Center, the Plummer-Worley School District's after-school enrichment program, has received a \$115,803 grant from the Idaho Department of Education to boost academic, social and cultural enrichment. Plummer-Worley was one of nine districts statewide to receive a portion of \$1.4 million awarded to Idaho under the federal 21st Century Community Learning Centers program. The new grant money replaces a five-year existing grant. With No Child Left Behind, the regular school day offers fewer connections for children between learning and the real world. In the after-school program, kids use fractions while they're cooking or multiplication when they're making things. Other enrichment activities for students in second through fifth grade include 4-H, Lego Robotics, science and technology. The Success Center, which runs four days a week, has enrolled 85 of the district's 114 students in those grades.

BONNER COUNTY

- A Sandpoint manufacturer has been awarded a three-year contract with GlaxoSmithKline, the world's second largest pharmaceutical company. Unicep Packaging is a contract packager of gels and liquids in one-dose applicators. Unicep will provide turnkey packaging for a line of personal care products under the contract it hopes is the start of a long-term relationship with the pharmaceutical giant. Despite the recession, Unicep has continued to grow. In May 2008, it employed 107 people. Today, it employs 165 at the Sandpoint Industrial Park.
- Two years ago, investors purchased and began to expand and renovate the Harbor Marina on Lake Pend Oreille. Today, the Garfield Shores Resort and Marina features five new redwood decks, 168 boat slips, state-of-the-art security, wireless Internet, a convenience store, 24-hour gas station and a restaurant called The Shores. Garfield Bay is one of the deepest in Lake Pend Oreille, enabling Garfield Shores to offer year-round moorage.
- Pend Oreille Surgery Center celebrated its grand opening on Idaho Highway 200 in Ponderay June 12. It's specifically designed to provide a wide range of "day surgeries."
- West Bonner County School District voters approved a supplemental levy of \$478,719 for the 2009-10 school year June 9. A continued drop in student enrollment and reductions in state funding left the district with a budget shortfall.

- The Lake Pend Oreille School District serving the Sandpoint area and the eastern part of the county awarded Panco Construction of Spokane the contract for additions to the Sagle and Kootenai elementary schools. Site work has begun at each site. The district expects to move into the Sagle addition by January 2010 and the Kootenai addition no later than September 2010.
- Sandpoint Charter School is expanding to include high school. It has been offering sixth through eighth grades only. This fall, the high school will open for freshman and sophomores in the existing middle school. Construction began in June on an innovative \$3.3 million high school immediately east of the middle school. A cutting-edge architectural design will prepare students for life after high school, providing a corporate work environment. The 20,000-square-foot building primarily will be open with classrooms limited to mathematics and other subjects which need a quieter environment. A large open area will be used by students for projects and school gatherings. Students will have their own work stations in the open area. The building is funded with a \$1.65 million U.S. Department of Agriculture loan, an \$81,000 grant and a bank loan. The new school should be open for the 2010-2011 school year.
- The timber market failed to improve enough by May to reopen the Idaho Forest Group mill in Laclede, which shut down in December and idled more than 100 workers. Lumber markets remain depressed and the price of lumber has been around \$206 per thousand board feet. A year earlier it was \$291. Idaho Forest Group plans to reassess lumber market conditions in September to see if the mill can reopen. In May 2005, wood products manufacturers and logging companies in Bonner County employed 1,112 people. By May 2009, they employed only 398.
- Six Rivers Market — a Web-based food cooperative that opened for business this spring — is growing rapidly. Every Wednesday, producers of fruits, vegetables, eggs, tofu, jams, chicken, meat, dairy products, honey and other commodities deliver goods to the Sandpoint Business & Events Center, where consumers pick up purchases of locally grown and totally fresh food. Six Rivers gives consumers easy access to local food without having to drive around to all of the farms that produce it. The online co-op site is also beginning to offer new, non-foods options such as soap made from local milk and beauty aids made by a local beekeeper.
- Sheri MacDonald opened a restaurant and store in early June above Sheri's Home Interiors in Priest River. The Loft sells coffee, espresso, sandwiches, soft-serve ice cream and pastries.
- Belwood's Furniture, which opened in downtown Sandpoint in 1933, is closing in August. The company has eight full-time employees and five subcontractors.

BOUNDARY COUNTY

- The city of Bonners Ferry has received a \$49,000 Gem Community grant from the Idaho Department of Commerce to create a 6-foot-wide riverwalk and add 40 parking spaces along the Kootenai River. Along the river side of the parking area, the sidewalk will be extended from the Kootenai River Bridge across the street to the back lot at Riverside Auto Center. The city hopes to complete the project by early September.
- Boundary County is home to many farms offering their own unique products or services. An example is Moose Valley Farms, owned by Mary Kimball and her daughter Cindi. It supplies vegetables, bedding plants, annuals and vegetable starts grown in two large greenhouses. It also makes its own "super soil," which can be bought by the yard or bag.

- To make it a little easier for local women to dress well for less, Michele Kramer has opened Sequels, a consignment store for women's clothing and accessories near the library in Bonners Ferry.
- Meyer's Service just opened in Bonners Ferry, offering repairs and regular maintenance tasks on anything with a small engine from chain saws, snow mobiles, lawn mowers, snow blowers, ATV's and motor bikes to watercraft. Owner Rick Meyers will even pick up engines and then drop them off once they are repaired.

KOOTENAI COUNTY

- The Coeur d'Alene Tribe broke ground in June on a \$75 million expansion of its resort casino and hotel. The expansion, which is expected to open in June 2011, adds 105 hotel rooms to its current 202 rooms. It also adds more casino space, a gourmet dining room, a fitness center, a 15,000-square foot spa and a natural amphitheater for concerts and fireworks. The additions will bring up to 150 new jobs to the 900 already at the casino and golf course near Worley. The Coeur d'Alene Casino Resort Hotel experienced a 12 percent growth in revenue during the first six months of this year compared to the same period in 2008. The casino first opened in 1992 as a bingo hall employing 80 people.
- Berg Companies, a business founded in 1883 in Spokane, moved its offices to Coeur d'Alene in February and expects to open a new production facility in Post Falls in the next year. Berg manufactures tents, flexible containments for liquids and insulated coverage units for industrial and commercial applications. One of its products is a portable "onion tank" capable of holding up to 15,000 gallons of water. It also makes industrial-size water tanks that can be towed behind ships. Berg, which employs 54, is a sister company to Berg Integrated Systems, which employs 75 people in Plummer. The Coeur d'Alene Tribe has 51 percent ownership in Berg Integrated. Moving to Idaho reduced operating costs and allowed Berg to qualify for the Historically Underutilized Business Zone Empowerment Program, which gives it an edge on federal contracts. Berg has enjoyed strong growth in recent years and is hoping to expand into disaster relief. It expects to hire additional workers once its plant opens in Post Falls.
- Another Spokane County company moving across the border for Idaho's better business climate is Burly Products. The metal fabrication firm builds aluminum boats, architectural railing, marathon racing boat hulls, truck bodies and performs general jobs for the public. The company plans to start work on a \$1.5 million, 20,000-square-foot concrete block plant in Riverbend Commerce Park later this summer. It employs 16 but hopes to grow after it moves to Post Falls toward the end of the year. The company, which opened in January 2006, will save on health and product liability insurance and workers' compensation with the move.
- Rathdrum is finally getting what mayors and economic development groups have been saying it needed for a long time — a motel. Kevin Randles — who owns a convenience store, laundry, video store, car wash and car lot along Idaho Highway 53 — plans to build a 28-unit motel adjacent to his other businesses. Although Rathdrum had small hotels until the last one burned in the 1970s, it never has had a motel. The motel's rooms will feature Wi-Fi and flat-screen televisions.
- IMCO Recycling of Idaho, an aluminum recycling operation near Hauser Lake, has shut down on weekends and laid off two production workers. Other layoffs may follow if the receipts from Kaiser Aluminum in Spokane and other customers don't pick up. Aluminum is tied to both the automotive

and building industries, which have been especially hard hit by the recession. IMCO, which employed about 40 people three years ago, now employs 22.

- Despite the recession, tourism operators are expecting this summer to be fairly good. Last summer, tourism remained as high as it had been in the peak summer of 2007. With gas prices more than a dollar lower than last summer so far, it should be easier to draw people who can drive to the Panhandle. The Holiday Inn Express in Hayden, which includes the Raptor Reef indoor water park and is next to the Triple Play entertainment complex, says many Seattle residents are planning to visit northern Idaho this summer.
- Silverwood, the Northwest's only theme park, opened for its 22nd summer in May. Until Memorial Day, it was only open on weekends. Its popular Boulder Beach water park didn't open until June 6. The park hired and trained 800 employees for the summer. It has been marketing heavily in its drive market – Seattle, Portland, Boise, Spokane and the Tri Cities in southeastern Washington.
- A \$3 million revitalization effort is under way in midtown Coeur d'Alene. When completed in October, midtown will be a "rich blend of public art, eclectic shops, restaurants and residences, paved intersections, pedestrian-friendly sidewalks and tree-lined streets," according to the city's urban renewal agency. Crews will replace pavement, curbs and sidewalks on 10 blocks. They also will install decorative landscaping, streetlights and benches. The city's urban renewal agency is paying \$1.6 million, the city is contributing \$1 million and property owners are adding \$250,000 through a local improvement district.
- TriGeo Network Security, a Post Falls provider of security information and event management technology, was named the Best Small to Medium Sized Enterprise Security Solution provider by SC Magazine. The company provides computer security products for companies with 50 to 5,000 employees. TriGeo employs nearly 50 people in Post Falls.
- A "USA Today" article about businesses that are doing well despite the recession mentioned that Sunshine Minting in Coeur d'Alene doubled its work force in 2008. Sunshine Minting supplies gold and silver blanks to the U.S. Mint, as well as creating memorial coins. Sunshine Minting currently employs nearly 200.
- Among the new businesses in Coeur d'Alene are:
 - High Tech Cleaning and Supply Inc., which distributes janitorial and sanitary supplies and cleans buildings under contract.
 - Bargain Foods & Treasures – a discount store selling food or other items that are discontinued, outdated or packaged in irregular containers.
 - Roger's Ice Cream and Hamburgers, which was a mainstay in Coeur d'Alene from the 1960s until it closed in 2006, will reopen in late June with a payroll of 10.
 - Mother's Haven, a store for babies and their parents, plans to open before the Fourth of July in an 1890 farmhouse in Coeur d'Alene, selling items for feeding, caring for and clothing babies. It offers classes on breastfeeding, infant massage, sign language, nutrition, first-aid and twin support.
 - A few blocks north, Government Way Tire and Battery opened in early June, selling a variety of second-hand tools along with tires and batteries.
 - Scratch Restaurant, which prides itself on making everything from scratch, opened in late May in downtown Coeur d'Alene. The restaurant, which employs 25, serves lunch and dinner with fresh, organic ingredients. The menu is "contemporary modern with an Asian flair."

SHOSHONE COUNTY

- The Central Shoshone Water District, serving about 10,000 people, is using a \$12.3 million federal stimulus check to build a new water treatment plant and install a water line and 2,000 meters for its customers. The plant should come online by the end of 2011.
- Perfect weather helped the opening weekend for the Route of the Hiawatha to be a resounding success. Once a railroad grade on the old Milwaukee Road, the 15-mile trail offers breathtaking views of the Bitterroot Mountains, crosses seven tall trestles and travels through 10 tunnels. Operated by Lookout Pass Ski Area on the Idaho/Montana border, the trail is gaining in popularity. Riders increasingly are coming from Europe, South Africa, Australia and other countries. Heavy snow cover postponed the opening of the route by a week. It originally was expected to open Memorial Day weekend. In 2008 a record 28,600 people traveled the trail. This year, the number could rise even higher.

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NORTH CENTRAL IDAHO

Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis and Nez Perce counties

AREA DEVELOPMENTS

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, which created the federal stimulus package, included:

- \$546,956 for the city of Lewiston to purchase two smaller buses with room for 10 to 12 people along with wheelchair spaces and wheelchair lifts for its “Dial-A-Ride” program. The city will also build seven bus shelters and add to a bus maintenance center with an enclosed bay for repairs and an open one for washing.
- \$71,950 to Lewiston that may go to put an elevator in the city-owned Bell Building. It would provide access for those with disabilities to a second floor where new public transit offices are planned.
- \$48,000 to help the Lewiston Police Department and the Nez Perce County Sheriff's office replace a records management system that has outlasted its lifespan. The system contains numerous law records including police reports and details of criminal histories.
- \$215,000 over two years for the Clearwater Economic Development Association to help coordinate resources for public transportation including developing a Web site.
- \$104,000 for the Council on Aging and Human Services to replace vehicles that serve Grangeville and Orofino.
- \$40,825 for the city of Moscow to purchase a van pool vehicle and other equipment.
- \$31,000 to upgrade public transportation between Riggins and Grangeville and Riggins and McCall.



CLEARWATER COUNTY

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers says repairs will start in July on the Dworshak Hatchery Nursery Building roof, North Tower elevators and powerhouse crane. Dworshak Dam and Reservoir will receive \$3.75 million in stimulus money for repairs on the dam, improvement of roads and marinas and other projects.

- The city of Orofino is receiving \$226,000 in stimulus funds through the Local Highway Technical Assistance Council for engineering and seal coating the main east-west road through the city. The project will be completed by the end of September.

IDAHO AND LEWIS COUNTIES

- Voters in Grangeville's Mountain View School District approved a \$1.66 million levy and closure of the White Bird Elementary School to save money. Mountain View School District covers Elk City, Grangeville, Kooskia, Harpster and White Bird.
- The city of Cottonwood has received a \$150,000 Idaho Community Development Block Grant towards the \$350,000 renovation of the community hall, slated to begin this summer.
- Cottonwood also received \$500,000 in stimulus money through the Idaho Transportation Department to repave three-quarters of a mile on Lewiston Street. Bids are expected to be let in October, and work is expected to occur in the summer of 2010.
- Widening the White Bird grade – a \$6 million project – is one of eight Idaho highway projects financed with the \$148 million package the state received in federal economic stimulus money. Construction should begin in mid-August and run about five to six months depending on the weather.
- Prairie Middle School in Cottonwood was one of 44 schools in Idaho to be awarded a grant by the State Department of Education to help purchase new school lunch equipment. The district received nearly \$9,000 under the federal stimulus program for a two-door refrigerator and a new dishwasher.

LATAH COUNTY

- Gritman Medical Center in Moscow plays a major role in Latah County, where it is the only hospital. It employs 485, making it the county's second largest employer. Gritman contributes approximately \$22 million to the local economy through wages and benefits. The medical center has 64 active physicians and another 38 physicians providing consultative and back-up services. Through its charity care program, Gritman provided more than \$682,000 in charity care during 2008 to patients who could not otherwise afford treatment. Last year, 423 babies were born at the hospital, and people made 9,298 visits to the emergency room.
- The University of Idaho proposes to eliminate 62 staff positions from its 2010 budget. In addition, 35 academic programs will be cut or consolidated as the university slashes spending by \$11.7 million in the coming year. Careful management of fiscal resources over the past eight months enabled the administration to meet the state-mandated requirement without furloughs or salary reductions, Interim President Steven Daley-Laursen said. The budget cuts were softened by the allocation of \$4.8 million in federal stimulus money in each of the next two academic years. In addition, the state Board of Education has approved a 6.5 percent increase in undergraduate student tuition and fees for the coming year.
- Debco Construction of Orofino has landed the job of adding a passing lane to U.S. Highway 95 as it crosses north over the edge of Moscow Mountain. The project funded with federal stimulus money is expected to create more than 50 jobs. Debco submitted the low bid of \$2.7 million. Construction is scheduled to begin in the mid-July.
- MaryJane Butters, a Moscow farmer nationally known for her organic foods and her celebration of the rural lifestyle, opened a store in Moscow. Mary-

Jane's Sweet Dreams sells organic bedding, table linen, towels, furniture, kitchenware, candles, soaps, her books and hand-crafted items. The Moscow store across from the weekly farmer's market is her second. Her first retail store opened last fall in the shopping plaza next to the Coeur d'Alene Resort. She sells many products including organic food on her two Web sites.

- The University of Idaho is partnering with a new Bellevue, Wash., firm to bring promising discoveries and inventions on campus to market. The University Research Office recently signed a memorandum of understanding with The University Funds to launch new startup companies with University of Idaho patents. The University Funds aims to create 15 to 20 new companies over the next five years with intellectual property licensing deals from Idaho and several other western universities.

NEZ PERCE & ASOTIN, WASH., COUNTIES

- Outdoor Life magazine recently ranked Lewiston as the best place in the nation for hunters and anglers to live. The article in the June/July edition praised Lewiston for its abundant populations of fish including salmon, steelhead, bass and sturgeon; big game species like elk, mule deer and whitetail deer; bird species like pheasant and chukars; great climate; and close proximity to Hells Canyon and the Clearwater and Snake rivers. It continues a string of positive national press Lewiston has received in the past few years. In 2007, National Geographic Adventure listed Lewiston among the top nine towns to live in for water-based recreation. Lewiston has been recognized in recent years as one of the best places to buy a home and was touted as the sixth-safest place to live by an insurance group. Earlier this year, Sunset Magazine listed Hells Gate State Park the 24th best campground in the Pacific Northwest.
- In the face of the recession, Regence, a health insurance provider, is freezing pay for most employees and reducing salaries of its senior management team. Any hiring or promotion that involves a change in pay now has to be approved by senior management, a step not required in the past. The measures affect Regence offices across the Northwest including the 681 employees in the Lewiston office.
- Wal-Mart is beginning to recruit the extra 150 people it needs to open its new 184,133-square-foot supercenter in Clarkston, Wash. It will shut down its smaller store in Lewiston. The 250 employees at the Lewiston Wal-Mart have been offered jobs at the new larger store, slated to open Sept. 2. Most of the 150 new positions will be in the new grocery store and related bakery and deli.

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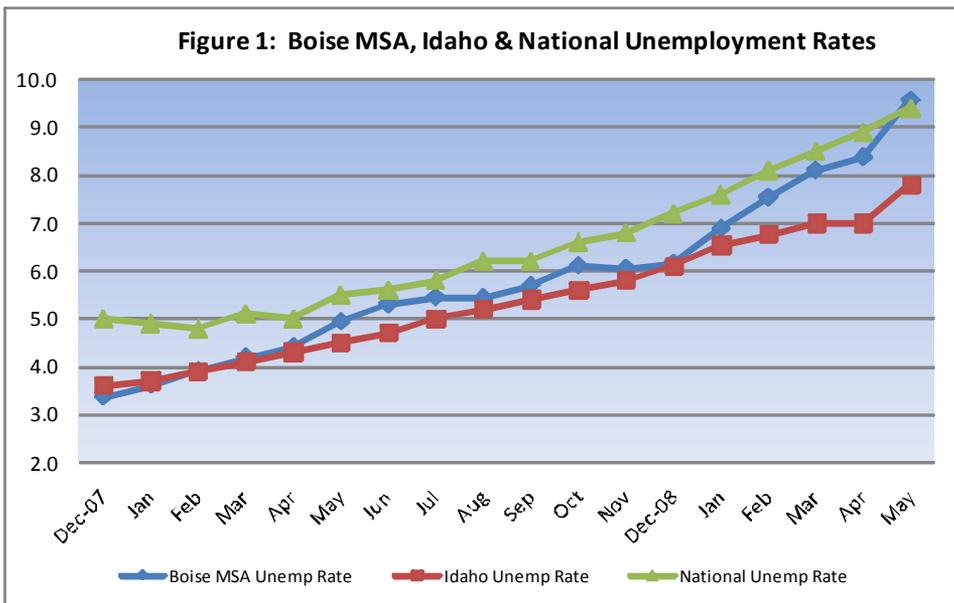
SOUTHWESTERN IDAHO

Ada, Adams, Boise, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Owyhee, Payette, Valley & Washington counties

ECONOMIC UPDATE

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the Boise metropolitan area increased to its highest level in more than a quarter century. The 1.2 percentage point jump from April to 9.6 percent in May was the largest one-month increase on record, following the smallest monthly increase so far this year of three-tenths of a point in April. The last time the combined rate in the five-

county area was higher was in early 1983 when the rate exceeded 10 percent. The formal metropolitan designation has only been in effect since 2000. The unemployment rate for the metropolitan area was 6.9 percent in January and 4.9 percent a year earlier, reflecting the recession's impact. Figure 1 shows the increase in the area's unemployment rate since the recession began in December 2007. In February 2008 the metro and state rates were identical at 3.9 percent. Since then the Boise area's rate has been rising more rapidly. The layoff of nearly 1,700 workers at Micron since October has had a definite impact. It was the first time since 1987 following the double-dip recessions that the five-county rate was greater than the national rate.



Since the recession began, the metropolitan area has lost nearly 34,000 workers. About 17,000 joined the ranks of the unemployed while the other 17,000 either left the area or dropped out of the labor force. Figure 2 shows the loss of people working compared to the decline in the labor force. Of the nearly 27,000 workers who have lost their jobs since May 2008, 82 percent are in the Boise metropolitan area. Half the increase in the number of unemployed workers statewide live in the Boise region.

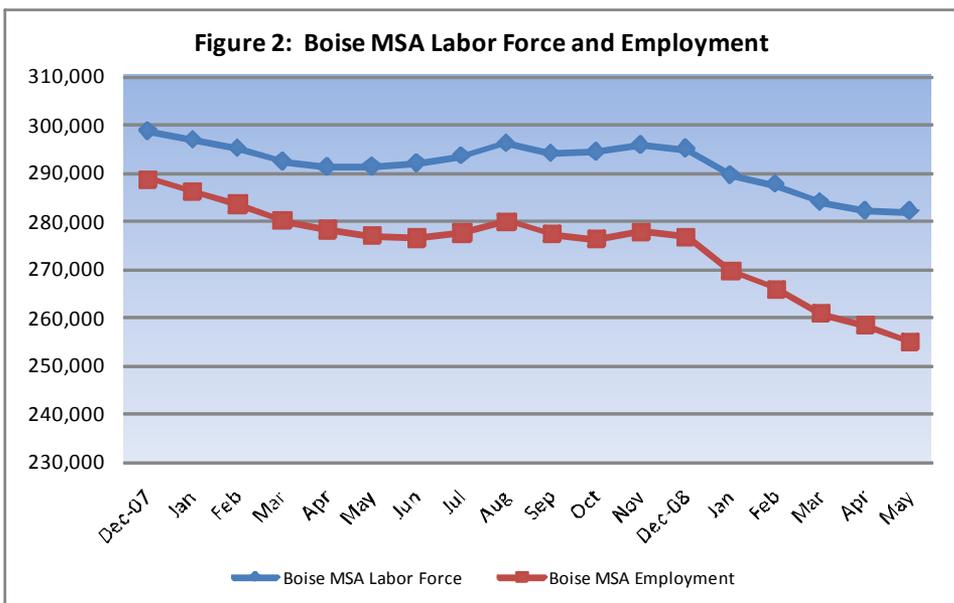


Figure 3 on page 19 shows the monthly unemployment rates for each of the other five counties in southwestern Idaho. Adams and Valley counties have always had the area's highest unemployment rates. However in May, Canyon, Gem and Payette counties reported double-digit unemployment rates. The last time Canyon County posted a double-digit rate was July 1990. All counties in southwestern Idaho reported unemployment rates higher than one year ago with increases occurring in the last six months.

Southwestern Idaho is a diverse region. So far in 2009 Adams County's unemployment rate has been one of the five highest in the state. On the other hand, Owyhee County's rate has been either the lowest or second lowest. In May, half the 10 counties had double-digit rates and seven had rates ranking among the top 12 in the state. The other rates were 7.3 percent in Elmore County and 6.3 percent in Boise County. Owyhee had the state's second lowest rate at 3.6 percent.

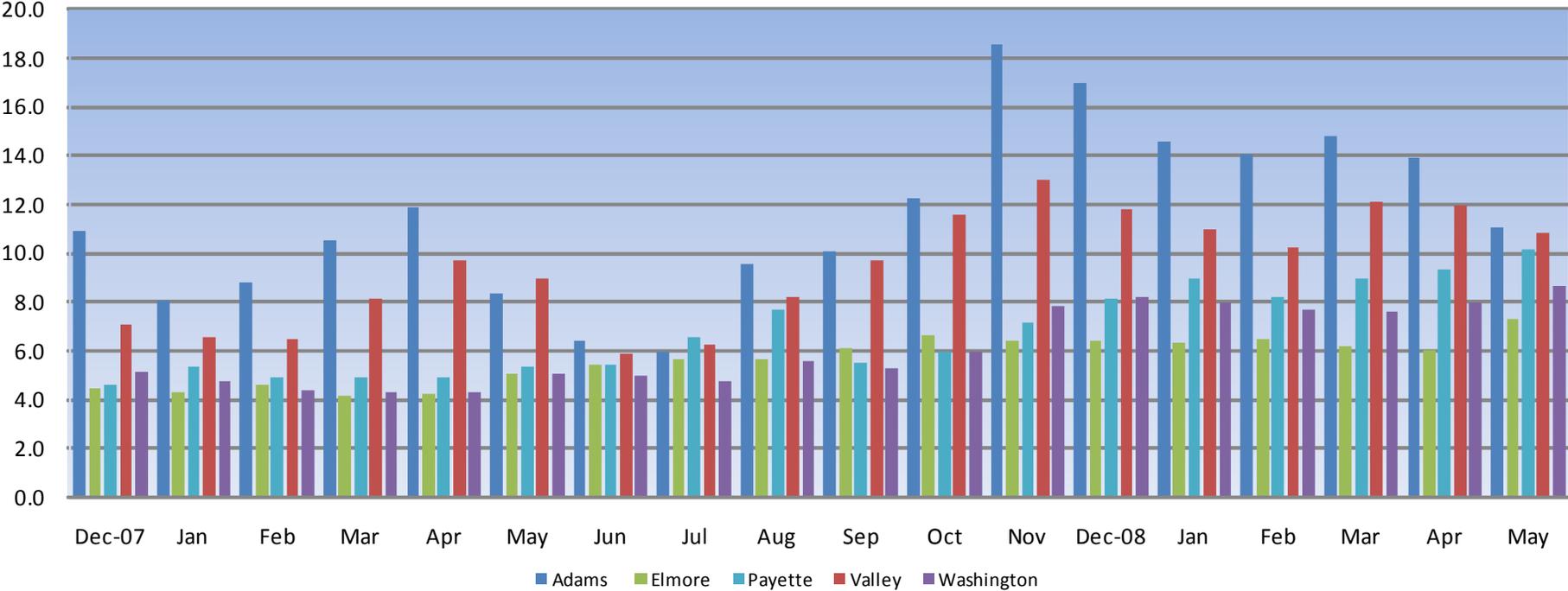
Nonfarm payroll jobs experienced a slight upturn of 1,100 in the Boise-Nampa area in May. With total jobs at just 254,700 in May, the metro area has lost 21,700 jobs in 12 months. Except for federal and local government, the only major private sector not to experience a loss was information, which has added about 200 jobs due primarily to the opening of WDS Global in February 2008. The growth in government was primarily in public schools, which has added nearly 700 jobs in the last 12 months. Nondurable manufacturing experienced no growth between May 2008 and May 2009 as the addition of 100 workers in food manufacturing was offset by a loss of 100 workers in the printing sector.

Between April and May, several sectors reported job growth – construction, trade and local government each added 300 jobs. The big growth areas were restaurants and bars, which added 800 jobs in May. There were several sectors that experienced a loss in jobs from April, mostly between 100 to 300. But the arts, entertainment and recreation sector lost 600 jobs, primarily due to the closing of Bogus Basin and other winter recreation activities. June should see increased jobs in this sector as the summer tourism season begins.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

- The Boise Metro Chamber of Commerce has picked a new chief executive. Bill Connors, who has been head of the Washington, D.C.-based National Business Travel Association since 2002, took over this month from retiring CEO Nancy Vannorsdel. Connors served as a teacher, administrator and school superintendent in Ticonderoga, N.Y., from 1978 to 1998. At the same time, from 1986 to 1999, he worked part-time as captain on a 500-passenger cruise ship for the Lake George & New Orleans Steamboat Co. on the popular Adirondack Lake. He then joined the Institute of Certified Travel Agents, where he became vice president. He served as senior vice president of the American Society of Travel Agents from 2000 to 2002.
- Boise City Councilman David Eberle wants to amend city ordinances to let the City Council choose bidders with "significant local economic presence" even if they are not the lowest bidder. More than 80 percent of the bids received by Boise come from local entities, Eberle said. They often come in lower because there are no housing or transportation costs, for example. But on large projects that get national attention, if an outside firm wants to make sure it wins, it would be in its best interest to include local engineering or architectural firms, for example, in their bids, Eberle said.
- FMC Corp. has announced that former governor, U.S. senator and Boise mayor Dirk Kempthorne has been elected to the company's board of directors. Before entering politics in the mid-1980s, Kempthorne was in charge

Figure 3: Southwestern Idaho County Unemployment Rates



of Idaho government relations for FMC. Kempthorne was elected to fill a vacancy, and his term will expire in 2010. He will be paid \$70,000 a year, including at least \$25,000 in restricted stock, plus \$1,500 for each board committee meeting he attends.

- Upscale eatery and specialty food shop Market Limone has closed in downtown Nampa. The business had been considered an important element in plans to revitalize Nampa's city center by drawing people to the area throughout the day.
- Boise Mayor David Bieter has launched a three-month pilot program to defer building plan review and permit fees and fire, parks and police impact fees until a certificate of occupancy is issued. "It is crucial that the city do everything in its power to promote business and get our economy back on track," Bieter said. "We hope that deferring these fees will be an incentive for developers who are considering new projects but have concerns about cash flow during the development process." The pilot program will run through July.
- Boise State University officially has begun building the five-story, 90,000-square-foot Center for Environmental Science and Economic Development. The \$40 million facility will be home to Boise State's departments of Geosciences, Civil Engineering, Public Policy and Administration and Political Science. It will support a Western agenda on the environment, transportation, water, land use and community and regional planning, and bring together many of the state's experts in these areas.
- The city of Boise laid off nine workers in May to cope with its budget shortfall. Mayor Dave Bieter said he wanted to maintain service levels and avoid deeper cuts later. City officials are planning the budget for the next two years while they struggle to keep the current budget balanced. They have offered early retirement to eligible employees, frozen new hires, held back on major equipment purchases and cut internal operations costs for the fiscal year that ends Sept. 30. Of the nine people laid off, six worked in Planning and Development Services, one in Public Works, one in the library and one in Information Technology. They were offered severance packages of one week's pay for every year of city service, or three months pay, whichever is greater. They also will get full payment of health care premiums through December and money to pay for career transition services. In addition, seven library custodians and security personnel who have been city employees have received job offers and severance packages from the private contractor who now will provide those services, Bieter said.
- Idaho Power is reorganizing and eliminating up to 40 jobs from its new customer division. Spokeswoman Stephanie McCurdy said the company has notified 165 employees that they were eligible for voluntary severance in hopes of meeting the reduction target. She said the action was a response to the poor economy and low revenue growth.
- The Owyhee Plaza Hotel's Gamekeeper restaurant was another in a long line of fine dining restaurants to close in the past year because of the recession. It had operated for 44 years in downtown Boise. Hotel General Manager John May wants to open a new restaurant in its place in the fall. Until then, chef Mark Owsley will prepare special Gamekeeper entrees for the hotel's Plaza Grill cafe.
- The U.S. House has approved legislation renaming Nampa's post office for Medal of Honor recipient Pfc. Herbert Littleton. The bill is awaiting a Senate vote. Rep. Walt Minnick, who introduced the measure, called Littleton "one of Idaho's legitimate, unabashed military heroes. He won the Medal of

Honor, sacrificed his life, and did it voluntarily to save his colleagues." Littleton, a member of the Marine Corps Reserve, died in Korea in 1951 when he threw himself on an enemy hand grenade to save the other members of his team.

- The state is requesting \$5 million in federal stimulus money to assist Micron Technology in shifting some of its Boise operation to the manufacture of light-emitting diodes, or LEDs. The request from the Idaho Office of Energy Resources still needs U.S. Department of Energy approval. LEDs use one-seventh the energy of conventional lighting and can last many times longer. Industry experts estimate the market at \$5 billion in 2008 and expect it to grow to \$12.5 billion by 2013. The move could help the shrinking company diversify. Micron is laying off 2,000 people by August as it ends computer-chip manufacturing on its Boise campus. Micron plans to begin work on prototype LED lighting modules in the next three months and produce the prototypes by the first half of 2010. Full production is expected by 2011.
- WDS Global is hiring up to 200 new workers for its expanded operations in Boise, which provide round-the-clock customer support for several wireless companies. The jobs will pay \$10 an hour and offer medical, dental and vision benefits and 401K. The company already has a payroll of 1,200. WDS Global has leased a second 7,500-square-foot building to accommodate the expansion.
- OfficeMax is closing its Treasure Valley Marketplace store in Nampa, the third store to close in the retail development this year. Sportsman's Warehouse and Joe's Sports were the others. The company indicated that the closure was the result of under performance at the location and not corporate weakness overall.
- The College of Western Idaho, which opened in January, hopes to have a new president on board when school begins its fall semester. Interim President Dennis Griffin will retire in August as the community college's first leader. The field has been narrowed to five candidates:
 - Paula Gastenveld, president of Owensboro Community and Technical College, Owensboro, Ky. She helped start a fundraising office and a "one-stop-shop" for student affairs.
 - Berton L. Glandon, president of Arapahoe Community College, Littleton, Colo. He was president of Treasure Valley Community College in Ontario for nine years in the 1990s.
 - Peter A. Gustaf, president of Wichita Area Technical College, Wichita, Kan. He has worked to bring together the business and educational communities in his area.
 - Linda Simmons, district vice president for academic and student affairs, Cuyahoga Community College, Cleveland, Ohio. She helped develop curriculum and honors programs.
 - Susan J. Wolff, chief academic officer of Columbia Gorge Community College, The Dalles, Ore. She worked to develop a renewable energy technology program that increased enrollment.
- Idaho Power stockholders have approved a resolution for the utility to reduce greenhouse gases. The proposition, backed by 52 percent of shareholders at the annual meeting, asks Idaho Power to adopt specific goals by Sept. 30 for reducing the gases that scientists say contribute to climate change. LaMont Keen, president and chief executive of Idaho Power, said he and the board "take this vote seriously and will consider adopting quantitative goals this year."

- Micron is buying Displaytech Inc. of Longmont, Colo., which makes electronic display panels for digital cameras, cell phones and other devices. A new display panel will allow cell phones and digital cameras to project images onto walls and other surfaces. The panel — one of five Micron lists on its Web site — is part of Micron's strategy of "delivering differentiated products that leverage its expertise in semiconductor research and design."
- The J.R. Simplot Co. has announced plans for a new \$100 million complex in downtown Boise. Construction is expected to begin in 2010 and take up to three years, providing 1,000 jobs. The oval-shaped structure will form the perimeter of a four-acre park.
- Ada County has joined 25 other Idaho counties in handing out free cards that can knock an average of 22 percent off pharmacy retail costs for almost any prescription. The cards are available to anyone but cannot be combined with health insurance cards. The card is jointly sponsored by Ada County and CVS Caremark. This discount card program has spread to at least a few counties in nearly every state. In the past three years, the program has saved \$179 million on more than 15 million prescriptions.

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SOUTH CENTRAL IDAHO

Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka and Twin Falls counties

COUNTY DEVELOPMENTS

JEROME COUNTY

- Jackson and Associates of Colorado has been hired to advise St. Benedicts Hospital on its campaign to raise money for a new hospital at Crossroads Point along Interstate 84. The Jerome hospital is owned by Minnesota-based Essentia Community Hospitals and Clinics, which was spun off of Benedictine Health System to run the system's acute care facilities. Among the other 12 hospitals and 27 clinics owned by Essentia are St. Mary's Hospital & Clinic in Cottonwood and Clearwater Valley Hospital & Clinic in Orofino. The new 25-bed hospital is projected to cost \$20 million to \$30 million.
- The Idaho Department of Transportation is resurfacing Main Street in Jerome from Interstate 84 to the railroad crossing and adding curbing, sidewalks and storm water drainage. The work will cost \$1.1 million.
- Electronic Data Solutions has moved to new offices in Jerome from the site it opened 23 years ago. The company creates computer programs combining global positioning systems with geographic information systems. It has 11 employees in Jerome and another 11 outside sales people throughout the western United States.
- Valley Country Stores opened another retail outlet in Jerome with a payroll of 46. The locally owned cooperative offers a wide range of hardware, feed, garden products and fuel.
- Krengel's True Value Hardware was recognized as one of the top 13 True Value stores in the nation. The store opened in 1906 as a blacksmith shop.
- Voters defeated a \$15.8 million bond to improve the 30-year-old Jerome High School. The school was built for 650 students, but enrollment is currently about 1,000. Property owners would have paid another \$73 per \$100,000 of assessed value to finance the bond.

- TruckMaster Logistics Systems Inc. of Jerome has signed contracts to sell logistical software to firms in Nigeria and Canada. Two other Canada contracts are pending. The company has been in the software development business for more than 20 years and has over 600 customers.

MINIDOKA AND CASSIA COUNTIES

- A poultry processing company has announced plans to open a plant in Burley with a \$30 million annual payroll and 1,000 workers to process up to 12,600 chickens an hour. The startup company, Magic Valley Poultry International, estimates the 3.2 million-square-foot plant could be up and running within 18 months on 83 acres near Burley High School.
- The Burley City Council approved the modification of a lease agreement allowing \$1.2 million in improvements to a 150,000 square-foot freezing facility at the Burley Industrial Park in Heyburn. The J.R. Simplot company, who donated the park to Burley, has been leasing the freezer space for \$1 per year from the Boyer Company, leasing agents for the park. Under the modified agreement, Boyer will make the improvements and in 2013, the \$1/year lease agreement ends and the freezer space can be leased to anyone at market rate. The city will continue to receive 10 percent of the gross revenue from the tenants managed by Boyer.
- Pacific Ethanol, which started production in early 2008, has filed for protection under federal bankruptcy law. The company shut down its plants in January 2009, including two in California, saying it would reopen when market conditions were more favorable. The company reported a loss of \$146 million in 2008.
- Braces R Us has opened a new office in Kimberly. The dental practice also has offices in Twin Falls and Hailey.
- The Burley City Council has approved an ordinance for sale of liquor by the drink on Sundays, Memorial Day and Thanksgiving. In a controversial decision, the council ultimately declined to submit the proposition to voters.
- The \$3.2 million renovation of the Wilson Theatre in Rupert is nearing completion, possibly under budget because of the overwhelming volunteer support and a federal grant. The triangular-shaped building on the town square is a historic icon built in 1902.

BLAINE AND LINCOLN COUNTIES

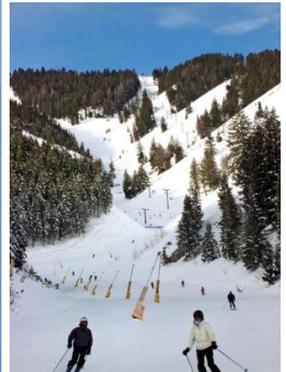
- Ketchum grows them big and that was the story for morel hunters who found 20 - and 17-pound puffball mushrooms. With cuisine tourism all the rage and the third annual Sun Valley Food and Wine Festival the event in early June, it seemed divine intervention to find the huge mushrooms. The hunters sautéed the puffballs but reported mediocre results. The next time, they will concentrate on the succulent morel.
- Wiseguy Pizza is expanding from its Hailey origins to Ketchum. The pizzeria offering New York-style thin crust with 12 different beers on tap has a following that has been making the commute from the Ketchum/Sun Valley area. Owner Erik Heiden said the new location only made sense to alleviate the commute for Ketchum customers.



Bob Mullins , left, and Felix Gonzales show off their collection of gigantic Puffball mushrooms. *Idaho Mountain Express* photo by Echo Lynn Christensen, reprinted with permission.

- The Wood River Land Trust has purchased 100 acres 12 miles northeast of Hailey along Porcupine Creek in the Pioneer Mountains. The land trust wants to conserve wildlife habitat and maintain public access to surrounding public lands. The purchase from Little Wood Headwaters Ranch, owned by environmental investment group Beartooth Capital, was for less than market value with the residual considered a donation to the land trust.
- Sun Valley Co. has restructured top management, naming former General Manager Wally Huffman to head resort development and bringing back former staff member Tim Silva as his successor. Silva most recently was general manager at the Northstar-at-Tahoe resort.
- Kenny Loggins was a big draw at the new Sun Valley Pavilion with his nostalgic mix of children's and adult music. The resort is counting on the new pavilion to boost revenues after a dismal skier count this winter. This season was the shortest in the last decade as warm weather thwarted the traditional Thanksgiving opening. Skier counts are shown below.

Ski Statistics for Sun Valley Resort		
Ski Year	# Skiers	Season Length
2008-2009	311,239	124 days
2007-2008	410,615	149 days
2006-2007	362,317	137 days
2005-2006	420,517	152 days
2004-2005	386,908	144 days
2003-2004	384,897	145 days
2002-2003	365,267	146 days
2001-2002	405,563	143 days
2000-2001	394,568	151 days
1999-2000	376,000	151 days



Sun Valley Ski Resort. Photo by Shelly DeMoss, Idaho Tourism.

- Musician Toni Childs, an Emmy Award winner, performed at the Sun Valley Wellness Festival, which is known for its unique and uplifting presentations.
- For the first time since 1987, property assessments dropped in Blaine County for 2009 property taxes. An amazing run of appreciation over two decades ended with a 4 percent decline in values this year. Total assessments were \$11.9 billion, down from \$12.4 billion for 2008 tax purposes. Assessments totaled just \$5 billion in 2000. A significant portion of the growth reflects new development rather than just appreciation.
- Shoshone lost a convenience store a few months ago, forcing the local Subway fast food outlet that was leasing space in the store to close as well. Con Paulos, president of Magic Valley Subways, admitted he liked the location and the community support but the loss of the fuel pumps and convenience store dried up the sandwich traffic.

TWIN FALLS COUNTY

- Simons Electric, a new specialty construction company, has opened in Twin Falls to serve both the Magic and Wood River valleys. The owner has been involved in the construction industry for 12 years.
- Two new hotels have opened in Twin Falls. The Holiday Inn Express & Suites is owned by The Summit Group, a hotel investment company headquartered out of Sioux Falls, S.D. The group owns two other hotels on the northwest end of Twin Falls. The Hilton Garden Inn is owned by the Glen Black family, which also owns the adjacent Ameritel Inn.

- The planned Pillar Falls Development includes retail, office, hotel, restaurant and condominiums with access to a canyon rim trail and views of the Snake River Canyon and the new Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Temple. Developer Oaas Laney purchased the project last fall when the previous developer ran into tenant and financing issues.
- Chiropractor Geoffroi Golay has opened his own practice after 14 years in Twin Falls, most recently associated with Blue Lakes Chiropractic. Golay focuses on preventative medicine including spinal care, nutritional instruction, muscle therapy and exercise training.
- Jim Paxton, owner of Snake River Pool and Spa, has been named dealer of the year from among 950 Hot Spring Dealers worldwide. The company has stores in both Twin Falls and Boise.
- The Twin Falls County Fairgrounds in Filer has a new electronic message sign that will catch the eyes of drivers on U.S. Highway 30 with its daily volume of almost 10,000 vehicles. The message board promoters were successful in drawing sponsorship from local businesses to help defray costs.
- Twin Falls County Commission has awarded a \$450,000 contract to Don Anderson Construction to remodel the third and fourth floors of the courthouse, which commissioners say has been neglected for too long. The commissioners claim the county is not expected to face severe financial problems like adjacent Jerome County, which is experiencing a severe budget shortfall.
- Amalgamated Sugar is supplying the sweetener for the new Pepsi products – Pepsi Throwback and Mountain Dew Throwback. The contract is a response to negative media coverage about high-fructose corn syrup and its relationship to increased obesity.
- The St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center is on schedule to open the 177-bed hospital in June 2011. The three buildings on 40 acres will cost about \$220 million when completed, nearly double the original estimate. Nearly 400 people are working on the project, and up to 40 percent of the specialty construction work is being done by local companies.
- Hansen has received a \$375,000 grant from the Idaho Department of Commerce to build a new 3,450-square-foot Head Start building. The College of Southern Idaho manages the finances for Head Start, providing an umbrella of benefits for the workers including educational opportunities.
- The Buhl Municipal Airport has received \$1 million in federal stimulus money to resurface the runways. The airport typically receives \$150,000 annually from the Federal Aviation Administration so the infusion of capital for improvements was welcomed. The airport records an average of 41 takeoffs and landings daily.
- The Castleford School District has not renewed its contract with Western States Bus Co. and will run its own bus service. The board wants to increase control over hiring drivers and have an asset rather than seven more years of lease payment receipts. Lake City Trucks of Boise submitted the low bid for five buses. The school district is reimbursed for 85 percent of operations, which does not include field trips and athletic events. Superintendent Andy Wiseman said the decision will not increase costs. The school district is currently taking applications for route and extra-curricular drivers for the 2009-2010 school year.
- A district judge has authorized Western Watersheds Project to proceed with its lawsuit accusing the U.S. Bureau of Land Management of breaking envi-

ronmental law and not following its own policies to protect sage grouse habitat by authorizing public land energy development and cattle grazing. The environmental group also blamed development and wildfires for depletion of sage grouse habitat. The government and the oil and livestock industries had asked the courts to consider breaking the lawsuit out into smaller chunks to be addressed individually. But the judge denied this motion, stating there is a precedent for decisions in one state affecting other states with similar issues. The outcome of the suit could affect the China Mountain Wind Farms and any future wind farm developments in southern Idaho.

- The College of Southern Idaho has received a wind turbine from a company that purchased it from the late wind pioneer Bob Lewandowski of Mayfield. The college is adding an environmental technology program that will include solar, water and wind energy in its multi-faceted curriculum.
- Spradlings Petroleum Products of Buhl is closing after 64 years. Two generations of the Spradling family had been involved in the company. Its land and buildings will be listed for sale this summer.
- The Buhl School District and the Boys and Girls Club have reached an agreement that will provide a new clubhouse by next summer at no cost to the school district. Until then, kids will be transported to the Twin Falls Club at 8 a.m. and returned by 5:30 p.m. for a \$10 daily fee that includes lunch and snacks.

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SOUTHEASTERN IDAHO

Bannock, Bear Lake, Bingham, Caribou, Franklin, Oneida & Power counties

ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

The Pocatello Metropolitan Area unemployment rate increased to 6.3 percent in May, nearly a full percentage point from April. It was the highest May unemployment rate since 1992's 6.8 percent and the first time since January 2004 that the rate for any month exceeded 6 percent. Nearly 400 more people were out of work in May than April even though the labor force decreased by almost 100. Over the previous 12 months, unemployment rose 800 while the work force expanded by nearly that many people, keeping total employment at essentially the same level as in May 2008. With the exception of Bear Lake County, the employment picture in the region's counties was similar. See the region's labor force and nonfarm jobs table on page 40.

Seasonal patterns dominated job activity. Public education lost the most jobs as schools began reducing staff for the summer. Construction posted a slight increase, but compared to May 2008, construction jobs remained significantly lower in response to stagnant residential building. Retailers added fewer than 100 jobs in May, primarily to meet the increased seasonal demand for building and yard supplies and sporting goods. But like construction, payrolls remained substantially below May 2008.

Compared to a year earlier, government payrolls were down nearly 1,600. But 1,200 of that decline reflects the shift of Portneuf Medical Center from public to private ownership. That shift essentially accounted for the entire year-over-year increase in the health care sector. A table showing unemployment data for southeastern Idaho by county is on page 26.

Unemployment by the Numbers, Southeastern Idaho Counties

Area	May 2008	May 2009	Difference
	Total Employed Benchmarked	Total Employed Forecast	
State of Idaho	718,843	692,015	(26,828)
Southeastern Region	75,633	75,578	(55)
Bannock County	37,315	37,288	(27)
Bear Lake County	3,305	3,420	115
Bingham County	20,901	20,899	(2)
Caribou County	3,354	3,305	(49)
Franklin County	5,277	5,209	(68)
Oneida County	2,125	2,103	(22)
Power County	3,356	3,354	(2)

Unemployment by Percent, Southeastern Idaho Counties

Area	May 2008	May 2009
	Unempl. rate benchmarkd	Unempl. rate Rate forecast
State of Idaho	4.5%	7.8%
Southeastern Region	4.0%	6.3%
Bannock County	4.6%	6.5%
Bear Lake County	2.8%	4.0%
Bingham County	3.6%	5.6%
Caribou County	3.2%	5.3%
Franklin County	3.3%	6.0%
Oneida County	3.4%	5.1%
Power County	4.1%	4.9%

COUNTY DEVELOPMENTS

BANNOCK COUNTY

- El Herradero Restaurant has opened a second location in Pocatello. Manager Efrain Brambila said the decision came after the restaurant became so busy at its original location that it was turning customers away.
- Edged in Stone Landscaping in Pocatello has been expanded to include a full-service landscape and nursery business called Changing Seasons. Owners Preston and Danielle George and Polly Klassen invested \$500,000 in inventory and remodeling to launch the combined business with 25 employees.
- Utah Helicopter's flight school at the Pocatello Airport, which opened in January, has 11 students and 35 others expressing interest in enrolling. To obtain the highest certification possible, students pay about \$80,000. But the placement rate is 100 percent, and helicopter pilots start at \$60,000 per year. Airport Manager David Allen said the novelty of the helicopter school seems to have caught the attention of local fixed wing pilots, and many who have given up the hobby are returning to the airport again.
- The apparent low bid for expansion and renovation of the Pocatello Airport was submitted by Stock Construction Management of Boise. The \$4 million project is expected to begin in late June, financed with \$2.25 million in federal stimulus money and \$1.75 million of previously awarded grants.
- Layton Construction of Utah is the general contractor resuming work on the \$200 million Portneuf Medical Center. Layton has been the general contractor for several medical facilities in the Northwest. Construction is expected to take about 30 months. Layton has indicated it will hire as many local subcontractors as possible.

- The city of Lava Hot Springs has secured a \$9.3 million low-interest loan from the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality to upgrade its wastewater system. The money comes from Idaho's share of the federal stimulus package. Voters must approve a bond to repay the loan before work can begin. The project received priority because the current system appears to be discharging a high concentration of nitrates into the Portneuf River.
- Idaho State University reported record enrollment of 14,209 students for the spring 2009 semester, an increase of 871 from the previous semester. Summer enrollment is also up 4.1 percent.
- Downey has been awarded a \$500,000 Idaho Community Development Block Grant to improve its water system, which was identified as needing improvements more than two years ago.

BEAR LAKE COUNTY

- Broulim's enlarged its Montpelier store to include a pharmacy, larger service area and restrooms.
- Triad Resorts remains committed to a modular motel manufacturing facility in Montpelier. The city has set up the Montpelier Development Corp. to secure Industrial Revenue Bonds from the Idaho Department of Commerce to support the project. The cost of the non-profit corporation will be repaid by Triad once the bonds are issued.
- Budget constraints are being blamed for the elimination of the \$50,000 annual grant the Bear Lake Regional Commission has been getting from Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. The commission is evaluating ways to operate without that contribution to its budget.

BINGHAM COUNTY

- Residents of the Snake River School District approved a \$17 million building bond to upgrade and remodel schools throughout the district.
- Premier Technology intends to hire another 30 employees in the next month, ranging from engineers and project managers to craft and production workers. The company will also be adding two large work bays totaling 51,000 square feet to the building at its current site.
- An agreement has been reached to end a court challenge and allow Western Energy Co. to proceed with its Cedar Creek Wind Power Project. There is no timetable for when wind turbine construction will begin on the 5,000 acres of land owned by Ted and Shirley Thompson.
- Walgreens Drug will replace the Rite Aid store, which closed several months ago in Blackfoot. The building conversion is being done by Robertson and Olson Construction with direction from Architectural Hotwire of Blackfoot.

CARIBOU COUNTY

- To improve the stability of the power transmission system in southeastern Idaho, the Bonneville Power Administration is proposing a 138/115-kilovolt substation near Soda Springs and partial funding for a 22-mile, double-circuit 115-kV transmission line. The Lower Valley Energy cooperative, which provides power to southwestern Montana, eastern Idaho and northwestern Wyoming, is growing at about 3 percent a year.
- The Grace City Council is evaluating the need for a \$4.8 million loan from the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality to improve its drinking water system. As a first step, the council is financing a \$3,500 archeological study.

- The J.R. Simplot Co. has been granted permission in the latest round of legal wrangling to continue preparing to expand the Smoky Canyon phosphate mine.
- Public comment is being accepted on Monsanto's plan to open the Blackfoot Bridge Mine, which would supply elemental phosphorus for production of Roundup herbicide.

FRANKLIN COUNTY

- The recession and accompanying credit squeeze is creating problems for financing a new Franklin County Medical Center. Interest on 30-year tax-exempt bonds for highly rated governments is about 7 percent, and some federal loan programs carry nearly 8 percent interest rates. A major factor in the increasing rates to hospitals in particular is increasing patient bad debt. Hospital officials will look at financing options before asking voters for a construction bond.
- Fourplexes in Franklin are selling as fast as they can be built, according to Chris Robinson who is building eight. Three of the units were sold before they were finished. The units are 1,400 square feet, have three bedrooms, two-and-a-half baths and two-car garages.
- The Franklin City Council met with Susan Lorenz of the Southeast Idaho Council of Governments to discuss the proposed comprehensive plan for the city. The plan for overall growth, promoting health and safety and providing for orderly development will be updated every 10 years and serve as a guide for growth in Franklin.
- Stock Building Supply in Preston will close by June 30 unless it's sold before then. The company, which is the second largest source of building materials for professional home builders in the U.S., is closing about 60 stores nationally including several in eastern Idaho and northern Utah. Five full-time employees will lose their jobs in Preston if a buyer is not found.

ONEIDA COUNTY

- The city of Malad received a \$250,000 grant for a 400,000 gallon concrete storage tank.

POWER COUNTY

- Union Pacific Railroad has completed improvements to the mainline running through Power County to increase rail capacity and safety. During 2009 Union Pacific plans to invest \$1.7 billion in strengthening the track all along its more than 32,000-mile system.
- American Falls voters approved bonds to make \$11.1 million in sewer system improvements and \$3.3 million for water system upgrades. Both received 70 percent majorities. The bonds will not increase property taxes but will increase the water and sewer bill by an average of about \$30 per month.
- Many American Falls residents attended the Horizons rally to discuss how American Falls compared with other rural communities and evaluate its strengths and weaknesses as a strategy is set to improve the area. Creatively building new economic opportunities was seen as the highest priority.

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EAST CENTRAL IDAHO

Bonneville, Butte, Clark, Custer, Fremont, Jefferson, Lemhi, Madison & Teton counties

NATIONAL LAB JOB AND INFORMATION FAIR DRAWS 2,000

The magnitude of the Idaho National Laboratory and Department of Energy Job and Information Fair underscored the depth of the economic downturn in eastern Idaho. The collaboration with the Idaho Department of Labor, Eastern Idaho Technical College, Partners for Prosperity and the Regional Workforce Innovation Team, backed up by solid marketing, drew up to 2,000 people for the jobs being offering by the businesses that were among the 28 partici-



Idaho National Laboratory's Job and Information Fair drew up to 2,000 job seekers.

pants in the five-hour event at the college. People drove or flew from as far away as Wisconsin and California. In addition to the traditional job fair booths, there were panel discussions on how to apply for work at the federal laboratory with operations on the high desert near Arco and in Idaho Falls, education opportunities in connection with the laboratory and information on scholarships and other INL job search techniques. Interest was so high that the college had to relocate the workshops to larger rooms to accommodate the crowds.

AREA DEVELOPMENTS

- Stock Building Supply has closed its store in Ketchum and will be closing its Rexburg and Idaho Falls outlets. While Rexburg has been laying off people over the past year, the store completely shut down on June 19, idling the last 15 employees. The Idaho Falls store will shut down in July. The Driggs store is also set to close. The Blackfoot and Pocatello stores closed in late 2008.

BONNEVILLE COUNTY

- Ruby River has closed both its Idaho restaurants. The Utah-based chain closed the Idaho Falls outlet after just a year and a half. The Boise restaurant was open an even shorter time. Sizzling Platter, which also owns Red Robins, Sizzlers, Hopper's and Little Caesar's, still has five Ruby River locations in Utah and Nevada. It may turn the Idaho Falls location into a second Sizzler in that city.
- About \$2.5 million in safety improvements are being made at a high-traffic intersection on the Idaho Falls-Ammon line. Landon Excavating expects the widening of Hitt Road and the addition of turn lanes in all directions to be completed in mid-October. Over 37,000 vehicles travel through the intersection daily. The project has been in the works for years, repeatedly put off by escalating construction costs, which have eased in the current recession.

CLARK COUNTY

- Dubois will be losing its Idahoan Foods processing plant to Idaho Foods in September. All 140 workers will be reassigned to the Lewisville and Idaho Falls plants. The company, which also has operations in Rupert, Firth and Winnemucca, Nev., cited cost savings in announcing the move.

FREMONT COUNTY

- The City Drug Store in Ashton has reopened as a pizzeria run by the Hamilton family, who moved from California several years ago. The soda fountain, which has been a favorite of residents for many years, is also back in operation, serving Reed's Dairy ice cream. Many of the 40 employees are teenagers from the community.

LEMHI COUNTY

- The Salmon Valley Business Innovation Center and the Salmon Arts Council recently hosted the Smithsonian Institute traveling exhibit "Between Fences" at the center. The exhibit draws the analogy between the reasons people build fences with politics, industry and daily life.
- Idaho Rural Partnership Leadership training was held at the Salmon Valley Business Innovation Center with author and former state Rep. Jana Kemp.
- Rene Toman, chairman of the Sacajawea Historic Byway Advisory Committee, has been awarded a \$23,000 Federal Highway Administration National Scenic Byways grant to purchase, develop and erect a kiosk and interpretive signage at the Bureau of Land Management Birch Creek Campground off U.S. Highway 28. The project will describe the culture and history of the area, evidence of prehistoric man, the movement and trade corridor of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes and the more recent history of European settlers, mining and ranching. "This site provides a strategic location to offer up information regarding key points of interest along the entire byway that lies to the north, located on the banks of Birch Creek in the center of a vast, unspoiled landscape of sweeping valleys and mountain peaks," Toman said. Completion is slated for September. Local volunteers, members of the Sacajawea Historic Byway Advisory Committee, Lemhi County Economic Development Association and members of the Nez Perce Trail Foundation will help with the site's upkeep.
- The Lemhi County Economic Development Association is discussing ways to capitalize on inclusion of the Salmon-Sawtooth Scenic Byway in the "Top 10 Scenic Drives in the Rockies." The tourism initiative will promote sustainable - green - travel, authentic destinations and customer satisfaction and emphasize off-peak seasons. It focuses on tracking bookings, visitation, occupancy rates, sustainability, satisfaction and return on investment in terms of economic benefit to businesses and communities. The Salmon-Sawtooth Scenic Byway, linking the Nez Perce National Historic Trail and Lewis & Clark Historic Trail to the Hells Canyon All-American Road, was seventh on the list.
- A new arena has been built by the Whitewater Therapeutic Riding and Recreation Association in Salmon. The organization serves individuals with physical, cognitive, emotional, educational and behavioral disabilities, at-risk, abused and neglected youth and elderly people through equine-assisted activities.

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State of Idaho Data

May 2009 Labor Force (preliminary) compared to May 2008 data *(continued on next page)*.

Seasonally Adjusted Data	May 2009				May 2008			
	Civilian Labor Force	# Unemployed	% Unemployed	Total Employment	Civilian Labor Force	# Unemployed	% Unemployed	Total Employment
STATE OF IDAHO	750,341	58,326	7.8	692,015	752,952	34,109	4.5	718,843
COUNTIES								
ADA (1)	187,856	17,210	9.2	170,646	194,375	8,951	4.6	185,424
ADAMS	2,307	255	11.0	2,053	2,227	186	8.3	2,042
BANNOCK (8)	39,866	2,578	6.5	37,288	39,119	1,804	4.6	37,315
BEAR LAKE	3,564	144	4.0	3,420	3,400	96	2.8	3,305
BENEWAH	4,117	489	11.9	3,628	4,013	377	9.4	3,636
BINGHAM	22,136	1,237	5.6	20,899	21,677	776	3.6	20,901
BLAINE (5)	14,032	953	6.8	13,079	13,610	454	3.3	13,156
BOISE (1)	3,287	206	6.3	3,081	3,500	152	4.3	3,348
BONNER	21,776	1,876	8.6	19,901	20,713	1,226	5.9	19,487
BONNEVILLE (6)	50,302	2,784	5.5	47,518	51,051	1,535	3.0	49,517
BOUNDARY	4,474	496	11.1	3,978	4,238	322	7.6	3,916
BUTTE	1,441	62	4.3	1,379	1,487	54	3.7	1,433
CAMAS (5)	644	53	8.2	591	615	21	3.3	595
CANYON (1)	79,809	8,696	10.9	71,113	81,960	4,688	5.7	77,272
CARIBOU	3,491	186	5.3	3,305	3,464	110	3.2	3,354
CASSIA (2)	10,386	490	4.7	9,896	10,553	377	3.6	10,176
CLARK	570	21	3.7	549	604	9	1.4	595
CLEARWATER	3,550	436	12.3	3,114	3,359	307	9.1	3,052
CUSTER	3,037	97	3.2	2,940	3,026	77	2.6	2,949
ELMORE	11,737	858	7.3	10,879	11,786	599	5.1	11,187
FRANKLIN	5,539	330	6.0	5,209	5,456	180	3.3	5,277
FREMONT (9)	5,534	345	6.2	5,189	5,482	216	3.9	5,266
GEM (1)	6,815	714	10.5	6,101	7,074	444	6.3	6,629
GOODING	8,366	385	4.6	7,981	8,199	250	3.1	7,949
IDAHO	7,760	667	8.6	7,092	7,594	461	6.1	7,133
JEFFERSON (6)	11,079	621	5.6	10,458	11,227	329	2.9	10,898
JEROME (10)	10,463	541	5.2	9,921	10,164	348	3.4	9,816
KOOTENAI (3)	72,113	5,779	8.0	66,334	72,426	3,452	4.8	68,974
LATAH	17,759	944	5.3	16,816	16,767	634	3.8	16,133
LEMHI	4,134	254	6.1	3,881	4,254	200	4.7	4,053
LEWIS (4)	1,823	80	4.4	1,742	1,812	60	3.3	1,752
LINCOLN	2,616	213	8.1	2,404	2,565	83	3.2	2,482
MADISON (9)	15,614	788	5.0	14,826	15,650	606	3.9	15,044
MINIDOKA (2)	9,699	547	5.6	9,152	9,812	401	4.1	9,411
NEZ PERCE (7)	19,790	1,068	5.4	18,722	18,913	841	4.4	18,072
ONEIDA	2,217	113	5.1	2,103	2,200	75	3.4	2,125
OWYHEE (1)	4,095	149	3.6	3,946	4,416	129	2.9	4,288
PAYETTE	10,420	1,062	10.2	9,358	10,256	548	5.3	9,708
POWER (8)	3,525	171	4.9	3,354	3,501	145	4.1	3,356
SHOSHONE	6,618	758	11.5	5,860	6,177	418	6.8	5,759
TETON	5,390	336	6.2	5,055	5,302	129	2.4	5,173
TWIN FALLS (10)	40,414	2,341	5.8	38,073	39,010	1,338	3.4	37,672
VALLEY	5,310	575	10.8	4,735	5,110	459	9.0	4,651
WASHINGTON	4,864	421	8.7	4,443	4,808	242	5.0	4,566
ASOTIN WA (7)	11,043	1,000	9.1	10,043	10,288	458	4.5	9,830

* In thousands

State of Idaho Data

May 2009 Labor Force (preliminary) compared to May 2008 data *(continued from previous page)*.

Seasonally Adjusted Data LABOR MARKET AREAS	May 2009				May 2008			
	Civilian Labor Force	# Unem- ployed	% Unem- ployed	Total Employment	Civilian Labor Force	# Unem- ployed	% Unem- ployed	Total Employment
BOISE CITY-NAMPA MSA (1)	281,863	26,975	9.6	254,887	291,324	14,364	4.9	276,960
BURLEY MicSA (2)	20,085	1,036	5.2	19,048	20,366	778	3.8	19,588
COEUR D'ALENE MSA (3)	72,113	5,779	8.0	66,334	72,426	3,452	4.8	68,974
GRANGEVILLE SLMA (4)	9,583	748	7.8	8,835	9,407	522	5.5	8,885
HAILEY SLMA (5)	14,677	1,006	6.9	13,671	14,225	474	3.3	13,751
IDAHO FALLS MSA (6)	61,381	3,404	5.5	57,977	62,278	1,864	3.0	60,414
LEWISTON MSA (7)	30,833	2,067	6.7	28,765	29,200	1,299	4.4	27,902
POCATELLO MSA (8)	43,392	2,749	6.3	40,642	42,620	1,948	4.6	40,672
REXBURG MicSA (9)	21,148	1,133	5.4	20,015	21,132	822	3.9	20,310
TWIN FALLS MicSA (10)	50,877	2,883	5.7	47,994	49,174	1,686	3.4	47,488
CITIES								
BOISE	105,785	9,000	8.5	96,785	109,950	4,490	4.1	105,460
CALDWELL	17,585	2,056	11.7	15,530	17,982	1,061	5.9	16,922
COEUR D' ALENE	22,535	2,039	9.0	20,496	22,511	1,140	5.1	21,371
IDAHO FALLS	27,571	1,720	6.2	25,852	27,904	889	3.2	27,015
LEWISTON	16,513	874	5.3	15,639	15,779	642	4.1	15,137
MERIDIAN	31,825	2,896	9.1	28,930	32,809	1,286	3.9	31,522
NAMPA	35,906	4,175	11.6	31,731	36,493	1,917	5.3	34,576
POCATELLO	28,811	1,792	6.2	27,019	28,224	1,110	3.9	27,115
TWIN FALLS	22,376	1,413	6.3	20,963	21,513	714	3.3	20,799
United States*	155,081	14,511	9.4	140,570	154,510	8,536	5.5	146,046

* In thousands

SOURCE: Idaho Department of Labor, Research & Analysis and Public Affairs.

State of Idaho Data — Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

% change from

BY PLACE OF WORK	May 2009*	Apr 2009	May 2008	Last Month	Last Year
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs**	618,100	614,500	658,000	0.6	-6.1
GOODS-PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	98,400	97,400	115,100	1.0	-14.5
<i>Natural Resources & Mining</i>	2,600	2,400	4,000	8.3	-35.0
Logging	900	700	1,000	28.6	-10.0
Mining	1,700	1,700	3,000	0.0	-43.3
Metal Ore Mining	1,000	900	1,300	11.1	-23.1
<i>Construction</i>	39,400	38,400	47,100	2.6	-16.3
<i>Manufacturing</i>	56,400	56,600	64,000	-0.4	-11.9
Durable Goods	32,400	32,600	39,600	-0.6	-18.2
Wood Product Manufacturing	5,600	5,600	6,900	0.0	-18.8
Sawmills & Wood Preservation	1,800	1,800	2,200	0.0	-18.2
Veneer & Engineered Products	1,000	1,000	1,300	0.0	-23.1
Other Wood Product Manufacturing	2,800	2,800	3,400	0.0	-17.6
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	4,300	4,300	4,700	0.0	-8.5
Machinery Manufacturing	2,900	3,000	3,200	-3.3	-9.4
Computer & Electronic Product Manufacturing	10,700	10,800	14,700	-0.9	-27.2
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	2,500	2,400	3,500	4.2	-28.6
Other Durable Goods	6,400	6,500	6,600	-1.5	-3.0
Nondurable Goods	24,000	24,000	24,400	0.0	-1.6
Food Manufacturing	15,600	15,600	15,600	0.0	0.0
Fruits & Vegetable Preserving & Specialty	8,000	8,000	7,900	0.0	1.3
Paper Manufacturing	1,600	1,600	1,600	0.0	0.0
Printing & Related Support Activities	1,600	1,600	1,800	0.0	-11.1
Chemical Manufacturing	2,400	2,400	2,400	0.0	0.0
Other Nondurable Goods	2,800	2,800	3,000	0.0	-6.7
SERVICE-PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	519,700	517,100	542,900	0.5	-4.3
<i>Trade, Transportation, & Utilities</i>	121,700	121,100	132,100	0.5	-7.9
Trade	102,200	101,700	111,200	0.5	-8.1
Wholesale Trade	25,000	25,400	28,000	-1.6	-10.7
Wholesalers, Durable Goods	10,800	10,900	12,900	-0.9	-16.3
Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	11,800	11,900	12,000	-0.8	-1.7
Retail Trade	77,200	76,300	83,200	1.2	-7.2
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	11,000	11,000	12,700	0.0	-13.4
Building Material and Garden Equipment	8,600	8,300	9,200	3.6	-6.5
Food & Beverage Stores	13,200	13,000	13,300	1.5	-0.8
General Merchandise Stores	16,600	16,500	16,700	0.6	-0.6
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	19,500	19,400	20,900	0.5	-6.7
Utilities	2,200	2,200	2,100	0.0	4.8
Transportation & Warehousing	17,300	17,200	18,800	0.6	-8.0
Rail Transportation	1,300	1,300	1,300	0.0	0.0
Truck Transportation	8,400	8,400	9,000	0.0	-6.7
<i>Information</i>	12,200	12,100	11,800	0.8	3.4
Telecommunications	4,800	4,800	4,700	0.0	2.1
<i>Financial Activities</i>	30,800	30,900	31,900	-0.3	-3.4
Finance & Insurance	22,700	22,900	23,400	-0.9	-3.0
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	8,100	8,000	8,500	1.3	-4.7
<i>Professional & Business Services</i>	75,100	73,800	82,100	1.8	-8.5
Professional, Scientific, & Technical	31,600	31,500	33,400	0.3	-5.4
Scientific Research & Development	7,400	7,300	7,500	1.4	-1.3
Management of Companies & Enterprises	6,900	6,800	7,300	1.5	-5.5
Administrative & Support & Waste Management	36,600	35,500	41,400	3.1	-11.6
Administrative & Support Services	34,500	33,400	39,800	3.3	-13.3
<i>Educational & Health Services</i>	78,100	78,300	77,900	-0.3	0.3
Educational Services	7,600	8,100	8,500	-6.2	-10.6
Health Care & Social Assistance	70,500	70,200	69,400	0.4	1.6
Hospitals	16,800	16,600	17,100	1.2	-1.8
<i>Leisure & Hospitality</i>	59,800	58,600	64,300	2.0	-7.0
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	8,800	8,100	9,200	8.6	-4.3
Accommodation & Food Services	51,000	50,500	55,100	1.0	-7.4
Accommodation	9,000	9,000	8,900	0.0	1.1
Food Services & Drinking Places	42,000	41,500	46,200	1.2	-9.1
<i>Other Services</i>	18,700	19,300	20,900	-3.1	-10.5
<i>Total Government</i>	123,300	123,000	121,900	0.2	1.1
Federal Government	12,500	12,600	13,700	-0.8	-8.8
State & Local Government	110,800	110,400	108,200	0.4	2.4
State Government	30,200	30,500	30,000	-1.0	0.7
State Government Education	14,700	14,900	13,900	-1.3	5.8
State Government Administration	15,500	15,600	16,100	-0.6	-3.7
Local Government	80,600	79,900	78,200	0.9	3.1
Local Government Education	42,400	42,200	41,700	0.5	1.7
Local Government Administration	34,700	34,300	33,000	1.2	5.2
Local Government Tribes	3,500	3,400	3,500	2.9	0.0

*Preliminary estimate ** Estimates include all full or part time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay in the following industry groups during the pay period ending nearest the 12th of the month.

State of Idaho Data — State Economic Indicators

	May 2009	Apr 2009	May 2008	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
IDAHO LABOR FORCE ⁽¹⁾					
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	750,300	750,300	752,900	0.0	-0.3
Unemployment	58,300	52,800	34,100	10.4	71.0
Percent of Labor Force Unemployed	7.8	7.0	4.5		
Total Employment	692,000	697,500	718,800	-0.8	-3.7
<i>Unadjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	748,100	745,300	752,900	0.4	-0.6
Unemployment	54,000	54,800	29,600	-1.5	82.4
Percent of Labor Force Unemployed	7.2	7.3	3.9		
Total Employment	694,100	690,500	723,300	0.5	-4.0
U. S. UNEMPLOYMENT RATE ⁽²⁾					
	9.4	8.5	5.5		
U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX ⁽²⁾					
Urban Wage Earners & Cleri- cal Workers (CPI-W)	208.8	207.9	212.8	0.4	-1.9
All Urban Consumer (CPI-U)	213.9	213.2	216.6	0.3	-1.3
AGRICULTURE					
Agriculture Employment	47,570	45,460	46,150	4.6	3.1
Operators	10,850	10,480	9,740	3.5	11.4
Unpaid Family	350	350	360	0.0	-2.8
Hired Workers	36,370	34,630	36,050	5.0	0.9
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE					
<i>Claims Activities</i>					
Initial Claims ⁽³⁾	12,285	15,075	7,291	-18.5	68.5
Weeks Claimed ⁽⁴⁾	144,502	171,925	59,408	-16.0	143.2
<i>Benefit Payment Activities ⁽⁵⁾</i>					
Weeks Compensated	129,459	153,823	51,427	-15.8	151.7
Total Benefit \$ Paid	34,113,265	41,066,269	13,497,623	-16.9	152.7
Average Weekly Benefit Amount	\$263.51	\$266.97	\$262.46	-1.3	0.4
Covered Employers	50,551	50,456	51,514	0.2	-1.9
Total Benefit \$ Paid During Last 12 Months ⁽⁴⁾	\$330,709,413	\$310,093,771	\$166,942,890	6.6	98.1

(1) Preliminary estimate

(2) Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

(3) Includes all entitlements/programs on intrastate and interstate agent, new and additional claims.

(4) Includes all entitlements/programs, intrastate and interstate agent.

(5) Includes all entitlements/programs, total liable activities.

Panhandle Data

Coeur d'Alene MSA Labor Force & Employment — Kootenai County

	May 2009*	Apr 2009	May 2008	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	72,110	72,260	72,430	-0.2	-0.4
Unemployed	5,780	5,270	3,450	9.7	67.5
% of Labor Force Unemployed	8.0	7.3	4.8		
Total Employment	66,330	66,990	68,980	-1.0	-3.8
<i>Unadjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	70,900	70,870	71,190	0.0	-0.4
Unemployed	5,640	5,830	3,140	-3.3	79.6
% of Labor Force Unemployed	8.0	8.2	4.4		
Total Employment	65,260	65,040	68,050	0.3	-4.1
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs** - NAICS	55,940	54,290	58,320	3.0	-4.1
<i>Goods-Producing Industries</i>					
Natural Resources & Mining	270	310	340	-12.9	-20.6
Construction	5,030	4,500	5,430	11.8	-7.4
Manufacturing	4,520	4,480	4,800	0.9	-5.8
<i>Wood Product Manufacturing</i>	730	740	820	-1.4	-11.0
<i>Other Manufacturing</i>	3,790	3,740	3,980	1.3	-4.8
<i>Service-Providing Industries</i>					
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	10,560	10,380	11,030	1.7	-4.3
<i>Wholesale Trade</i>	1,480	1,520	1,580	-2.6	-6.3
<i>Retail Trade</i>	8,070	7,840	8,350	2.9	-3.4
<i>Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities</i>	1,010	1,020	1,100	-1.0	-8.2
Information	910	910	910	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	3,120	3,090	3,210	1.0	-2.8
Professional & Business Services	5,490	5,200	5,860	5.6	-6.3
Educational & Health Services	6,290	6,240	6,350	0.8	-0.9
Leisure & Hospitality	8,490	7,890	8,700	7.6	-2.4
Other Services	1,390	1,400	1,550	-0.7	-10.3
Government Education	3,720	3,750	3,730	-0.8	-0.3
Government Administration	5,240	5,260	5,440	-0.4	-3.7
Government Tribes	910	880	970	3.4	-6.2

* Preliminary estimate

**Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month.

North Central Idaho Data

Lewiston MSA Labor Force & Employment — Nez Perce County, Idaho and Asotin County, Wash.

	May 2009*	Apr 2009	May 2008	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	30,830	30,760	29,300	0.2	5.2
Unemployment	2,070	1,920	1,300	7.8	59.2
% of Labor Force Unemployed	6.7	6.2	4.4		
Total Employment	28,760	28,840	28,000	-0.3	2.7
<i>Unadjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	31,100	31,030	29,430	0.2	5.7
Unemployment	2,070	2,200	1,220	-5.9	69.7
% of Labor Force Unemployed	6.7	7.1	4.1		
Total Employment	29,030	28,830	28,210	0.7	2.9
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs** - NAICS	27,310	27,010	28,090	1.1	-2.8
<i>Goods-Producing Industries</i>					
Natural Resources & Mining	190	180	180	5.6	5.6
Construction	1,120	1,070	1,330	4.7	-15.8
Manufacturing	3,110	3,070	3,270	1.3	-4.9
<i>Wood Product Manufacturing</i>	400	390	510	2.6	-21.6
<i>Paper Manufacturing</i>	1,040	1,040	1,070	0.0	-2.8
<i>Other Manufacturing</i>	1,670	1,640	1,690	1.8	-1.2
<i>Service-Providing Industries</i>					
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	5,260	5,230	5,560	0.6	-5.4
<i>Wholesale Trade</i>	600	580	690	3.4	-13.0
<i>Retail Trade</i>	3,640	3,630	3,740	0.3	-2.7
<i>Utilities</i>	90	100	90	-10.0	0.0
<i>Transportation & Warehousing</i>	930	920	1,040	1.1	-10.6
Information	380	370	370	2.7	2.7
Financial Activities	2,020	2,030	2,110	-0.5	-4.3
Professional & Business Services	1,460	1,470	1,510	-0.7	-3.3
Education & Health Services	4,410	4,430	4,480	-0.5	-1.6
Leisure & Hospitality	2,640	2,580	2,790	2.3	-5.4
Other Services	1,070	1,070	1,110	0.0	-3.6
Government Education	2,560	2,570	2,560	-0.4	0.0
Government Administration	2,380	2,240	2,110	6.3	12.8
Government Tribes	710	700	710	1.4	0.0

*Preliminary estimate

**Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month.

Southwestern Idaho Data

Boise-Nampa MSA Labor Force & Employment — Ada, Canyon, Boise, Gem and Owyhee counties

	<u>% Change</u>				
	May 2009*	Apr 2009	May 2008	Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	281,900	282,000	291,400	0.0	-3.3
Unemployment	27,000	23,600	14,400	14.4	87.5
% of Labor Force Unemployed	9.6	8.4	4.9		
Total Employment	254,900	258,400	277,000	-1.4	-8.0
<i>Unadjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	282,800	283,000	294,200	-0.1	-3.9
Unemployment	23,700	23,300	11,800	1.7	100.8
% of Labor Force Unemployed	8.4	8.2	4.0		
Total Employment	259,100	259,700	282,400	-0.2	-8.3
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs**	254,700	253,600	276,400	0.4	-7.9
GOODS-PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	40,400	40,300	48,400	0.2	-16.5
<i>Natural Resources & Construction</i>	200	200	300	0.0	-33.3
Construction	16,100	15,800	19,100	1.9	-15.7
<i>Manufacturing</i>	24,100	24,300	29,000	-0.8	-16.9
Durable Goods	17,100	17,300	22,000	-1.2	-22.3
Wood Product Manufacturing	1,300	1,300	2,100	0.0	-38.1
Fabricated Metal Products Mfg.	1,300	1,300	1,500	0.0	-13.3
Machinery Manufacturing	1,000	1,000	1,200	0.0	-16.7
Computer & Electronic Manufacturing	9,800	9,800	12,900	0.0	-24.0
Transportation Equipment Mfg.	1,500	1,500	2,200	0.0	-31.8
Other Durable Goods	2,200	2,400	2,100	-8.3	4.8
Nondurable Goods	7,000	7,000	7,000	0.0	0.0
Food Manufacturing	5,000	5,000	4,900	0.0	2.0
Printing & Related Support Activities	600	600	700	0.0	-14.3
Other Nondurable Goods	1,400	1,400	1,400	0.0	0.0
SERVICE-PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	214,300	213,300	228,000	0.5	-6.0
<i>Trade, Transportation, & Utilities</i>	50,700	50,400	53,500	0.6	-5.2
Trade	42,600	42,300	45,500	0.7	-6.4
Wholesale Trade	11,700	11,700	12,100	0.0	-3.3
Wholesalers, Durable Goods	6,500	6,500	6,800	0.0	-4.4
Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	3,800	3,800	3,800	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	30,900	30,600	33,400	1.0	-7.5
Food & Beverage Stores	4,800	4,700	5,000	2.1	-4.0
General Merchandise Stores	6,600	6,600	6,600	0.0	0.0
All Other Retail Trade	19,500	19,300	21,800	1.0	-10.6
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	8,100	8,100	8,000	0.0	1.3
Utilities	700	800	700	-12.5	0.0
Transportation & Warehousing	7,400	7,300	7,300	1.4	1.4
<i>Information</i>	5,700	5,600	5,500	1.8	3.6
Telecommunications	1,100	1,300	1,400	-15.4	-21.4
<i>Financial Activities</i>	13,700	13,600	14,300	0.7	-4.2
Finance & Insurance	10,300	10,300	10,400	0.0	-1.0
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	3,400	3,300	3,900	3.0	-12.8
<i>Professional & Business Services</i>	36,200	36,300	41,600	-0.3	-13.0
Professional, Scientific, & Technical	12,000	12,000	12,500	0.0	-4.0
Management of Companies & Ent.	4,900	5,000	5,500	-2.0	-10.9
Administrative & Support & Waste Mgmt.	19,300	19,300	23,600	0.0	-18.2
<i>Educational & Health Services</i>	33,000	33,100	35,300	-0.3	-6.5
Educational Services	2,600	2,800	3,200	-7.1	-18.8
Health Care & Social Assistance	30,400	30,300	32,100	0.3	-5.3
Hospitals	9,700	9,500	10,500	2.1	-7.6
<i>Leisure & Hospitality</i>	22,300	21,900	25,400	1.8	-12.2
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	1,600	2,200	3,500	-27.3	-54.3
Accommodation & Food Services	20,700	19,700	21,900	5.1	-5.5
Accommodation	2,200	2,000	2,200	10.0	0.0
Food Services & Drinking Places	18,500	17,700	19,700	4.5	-6.1
<i>Other Services</i>	8,100	8,100	8,400	0.0	-3.6
Total Government	44,600	44,300	44,000	0.7	1.4
Federal Government	6,300	6,300	6,200	0.0	1.6
State & Local Government	38,300	38,000	37,800	0.8	1.3
State Government	14,100	14,100	14,300	0.0	-1.4
State Government Education	4,500	4,500	4,800	0.0	-6.3
State Government Administration	9,600	9,600	9,500	0.0	1.1
Local Government	24,200	23,900	23,500	1.3	3.0
Local Government Education	15,300	15,200	14,600	0.7	4.8
Local Government Administration	8,900	8,700	8,900	2.3	0.0

* Preliminary estimate

**Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month.

South Central Idaho Data

Twin Falls-Jerome MicSA Labor Force & Employment — Twin Falls and Jerome counties

	<u>% Change From</u>				
	May 2009*	Apr 2009	May 2008	Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	50,880	50,820	49,170	0.1	3.5
Unemployment	2,880	2,490	1,690	15.7	70.4
% of Labor Force Unemployed	5.7	4.9	3.4		
Total Employment	48,000	48,330	47,480	-0.7	1.1
<i>Unadjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	50,320	49,720	48,740	1.2	3.2
Unemployment	2,660	2,610	1,460	1.9	82.2
% of Labor Force Unemployed	5.3	5.2	3.0		
Total Employment	47,660	47,110	47,280	1.2	0.8
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs**	39,600	39,350	40,410	0.6	-2.0
<i>Goods-Providing Industries</i>					
Natural Resources & Mining	70	70	70	0.0	0.0
Construction	1,930	1,930	2,240	0.0	-13.8
Manufacturing	4,450	4,420	4,610	0.7	-3.5
<i>Food Manufacturing</i>	2,660	2,640	2,570	0.8	3.5
<i>Other Manufacturing</i>	1,790	1,780	2,040	0.6	-12.3
<i>Service-Providing Industries</i>					
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	9,950	9,920	9,950	0.3	0.0
<i>Wholesale Trade</i>	1,990	1,980	1,950	0.5	2.1
<i>Retail Trade</i>	5,360	5,310	5,770	0.9	-7.1
<i>Utilities</i>	180	180	170	0.0	5.9
<i>Transportation & Warehousing</i>	2,420	2,450	2,060	-1.2	17.5
Information	650	650	660	0.0	-1.5
Financial Activities	1,770	1,790	1,720	-1.1	2.9
Professional & Business Services	4,590	4,650	5,060	-1.3	-9.3
Educational & Health Services	5,460	5,380	5,280	1.5	3.4
Leisure & Hospitality	3,640	3,460	3,550	5.2	2.5
Other Services	1,470	1,470	1,530	0.0	-3.9
Government Education	3,130	3,250	3,250	-3.7	-3.7
Government Administration	2,490	2,360	2,490	5.5	0.0

*Preliminary estimate

**Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month.

Southeastern Idaho Data

Pocatello MSA Labor Force & Employment – Bannock and Power counties

	May 2009*	Apr 2009	May 2008	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	43,390	43,470	42,620	-0.2	1.8
Unemployment	2,750	2,380	1,950	15.5	41.0
% of Labor Force Unemployed	6.3	5.5	4.6		
	40,640	41,090	40,670	-1.1	-0.1
<i>Unadjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	44,580	44,500	43,880	0.2	1.6
Unemployment	2,490	2,410	1,640	3.3	51.8
% of Labor Force Unemployed	5.6	5.4	3.7		
Total Employment	42,090	42,090	42,240	0.0	-0.4
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs** - NAICS	37,390	37,650	39,270	-0.7	-4.8
<i>Goods-Producing Industries</i>	5,280	5,250	5,690	0.6	-7.2
Natural Resources & Mining	20	20	20	0.0	0.0
Construction	1,620	1,590	2,080	1.9	-22.1
Manufacturing	3,640	3,640	3,590	0.0	1.4
<i>Food Manufacturing</i>	1,440	1,420	1,400	1.4	2.9
<i>Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing</i>	260	260	230	0.0	13.0
<i>Machinery Manufacturing</i>	100	100	90	0.0	11.1
<i>Other Manufacturing</i>	1,840	1,860	1,870	-1.1	-1.6
<i>Service-Providing Industries</i>	32,110	32,400	33,580	-0.9	-4.4
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	6,760	6,700	7,730	0.9	-12.5
<i>Wholesale Trade</i>	1,370	1,360	1,350	0.7	1.5
<i>Retail Trade</i>	4,190	4,140	4,710	1.2	-11.0
<i>Utilities</i>	50	50	50	0.0	0.0
<i>Transportation & Warehousing</i>	1,150	1,150	1,580	0.0	-27.2
Information	560	560	690	0.0	-18.8
Financial Activities	2,180	2,190	2,150	-0.5	1.4
Professional & Business Services	4,210	4,220	4,230	-0.2	-0.5
Educational & Health Services	4,870	4,870	3,640	0.0	33.8
Leisure & Hospitality	3,720	3,640	3,830	2.2	-2.9
Other Services	1,330	1,350	1,280	-1.5	3.9
Government Education	5,540	5,850	5,550	-5.3	-0.2
Government Administration	2,940	3,020	4,500	-2.6	-34.7

*Preliminary estimate

**Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month.

East Central Idaho Data

Idaho Falls MSA Labor Force & Employment – Bonneville and Jefferson counties

	May 2009*	Apr 2009	May 2008	<u>% Change From</u>	
				Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	61,380	61,260	62,280	0.2	-1.4
Unemployment	3,400	3,040	1,860	11.8	82.8
% of Labor Force Unemployed	5.5%	5.0%	3.0%		
Total Employment	57,980	58,220	60,410	-0.4	-4.0
<i>Unadjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	61,200	61,100	62,310	0.2	-1.8
Unemployment	3,080	3,220	1,570	-4.3	96.2
% of Labor Force Unemployed	5.0%	5.3%	2.5%		
Total Employment	58,120	57,880	60,730	0.4	-4.3
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs** - NAICS	50,450	49,910	52,480	1.1	-3.9
<i>Goods-Producing Industries</i>	6,820	6,700	8,030	1.8	-15.1
Construction & Natural Resources	3,400	3,300	4,680	3.0	-27.4
Manufacturing	3,420	3,400	3,350	0.6	2.1
<i>Food Manufacturing</i>	870	870	950	0.0	-8.4
<i>Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing</i>	230	230	290	0.0	-20.7
<i>Machinery Manufacturing</i>	130	130	150	0.0	-13.3
<i>Other Manufacturing</i>	2,190	2,170	1,960	0.9	11.7
<i>Service-Providing Industries</i>	43,630	43,210	44,450	1.0	-1.8
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	12,290	12,260	13,370	0.2	-8.1
<i>Wholesale Trade</i>	3,340	3,420	3,710	-2.3	-10.0
<i>Retail Trade</i>	7,550	7,460	7,790	1.2	-3.1
<i>Utilities</i>	70	70	60	0.0	16.7
<i>Transportation</i>	1,330	1,310	1,810	1.5	-26.5
Information	1,340	1,330	1,450	0.8	-7.6
Financial Activities	2,010	2,020	2,260	-0.5	-11.1
Professional & Business Services	4,790	4,760	5,310	0.6	-9.8
Educational & Health Services	7,380	7,350	7,470	0.4	-1.2
Leisure & Hospitality	5,400	5,230	4,960	3.3	8.9
Other Services	2,620	2,640	2,170	-0.8	20.7
Government Education	3,970	3,940	3,830	0.8	3.7
Government Administration	3,830	3,690	3,620	3.8	5.8

*Preliminary estimate

**Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month.

Glossary of Labor Market Terms

Agriculture Employment: Persons on agriculture payrolls who work or receive pay for any period during the survey week. This includes owners, operators, unpaid family members who work at least 15 hours a week, and hired laborers.

Average Hourly Earnings/Average Weekly Hours: The average total money earnings earned by production or non-supervisory workers for selected industries. The average number of hours worked by production or non-supervisory workers including overtime, paid vacation, and sick leave. The data is collected for the week including the 12th of the month.

Average Weekly Earnings: Average Hourly Earnings multiplied by Average Weekly Hours.

Civilian Labor Force: A count of non-institutional persons 16 years of age and over residing within a specific geographic area, excluding members of armed forces, who are classified as employed, unemployed and seeking employment, or involved in a labor dispute.

Consumer Price Index (CPI): A national index measuring changes over time in the price of a fixed market basket of goods and services. There are two indexes—the All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) represents the buying habits of about 80 percent of the non-institutional population of the United States, and the Urban Wage & Clerical Workers (CPI-W) represents 40 percent of the population.

Covered Employers: Employers who are subject to state and federal Unemployment Insurance laws.

Durable Goods: Also known as “hard goods” because they include items manufactured or provided by wholesalers with a normal life expectancy of three years or more.

Employed: Individuals, 16 years of age or older, who worked at least 1 hour for pay or profit or worked at least 15 unpaid hours in a family business during the week including the 12th day of the month. Individuals are also counted as employed if they had a job but did not work because they were: ill, on vacation, in a labor dispute, prevented from working because of bad weather, or temporarily absent for similar reasons.

Initial Claim: Any notice of unemployment filed to request (1) a determination of entitlement to and eligibility for compensation or (2) a second or subsequent period of unemployment within a benefit year or period of eligibility.

Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA): A county or a combination of counties in which at least half the residents live in an urban center of 50,000 or more and the rest have significant commuting ties to that central county. The Office of Management and Budget designates the MSAs. Idaho has five MSAs: Boise MSA including Ada, Canyon, Boise, Gem and Owyhee counties; Bonneville MSA including Bonneville and Jefferson counties; Pocatello MSA including Bannock and Power counties; Lewiston MSA including Nez Perce County and Asotin County, Wash.; Coeur d’Alene MSA including Kootenai County.

Micropolitan Statistical Area (MicSA): Combinations of counties in which at least half the residents live in urban centers totaling at least 10,000—or 5,000 living in a single urban center—and the rest have significant commuting ties to that central county. The Office of Management and Budget designates the MicSAs. Idaho has three MicSAs: Burley MicSA including Cassia and Minidoka counties; Rexburg MicSA including Madison and Fremont counties; Twin Falls MicSA including Twin Falls and Jerome counties.

Glossary of Labor Market Terms (cont.)

Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment: Persons on nonfarm establishment payrolls (including employees on paid sick leave, paid holiday, or paid vacation) who work or receive pay for any part of the week including the 12th of the month. It is a count of jobs by place of work. It does not include self-employed, unpaid volunteer or family workers, domestic workers in households, military personnel and persons who are laid off, on leave without pay, or on strike for the entire reference period.

Nondurable Goods: Also known as “soft goods” because they include items manufactured or provided by wholesalers that generally last for only a short period of time (three years or less).

Seasonally Adjusted: Data is seasonally adjusted to remove the impact of regular events that occur at the same time every year such as the effect of cold weather on outdoor activities, the Christmas holiday, or the summer influx of youth into the labor market.

Small Labor Market Areas (SLMA): Combinations of counties with significant ties through commuting patterns but no urban centers with populations of 10,000 or more. The Office of Management and Budget designates the SLMAs. Idaho has two SLMAs: Hailey SLMA including Blaine and Camas counties; Grangeville SLMA including Lewis and Idaho counties.

Unemployed: Those individuals, 16 years of age or older, who do not have a job but are available for work and actively seeking work during the week including the 12th of the month. The only exceptions to these criteria are individuals who are waiting to be recalled from a layoff and individuals waiting to report to a new job within 30 days—these, too, are considered unemployed.

Unemployment Insurance: Unemployment Insurance is a program for the accumulation of funds paid by employers, to be used for the payment of Unemployment Insurance to workers during periods of unemployment which are beyond their control.

Unemployment Rate: The number of persons unemployed expressed as a percentage of the labor force.

Weekly Benefit Amount: The amount payable to a claimant for a compensable week of total unemployment.

Weeks Claimed: The number of weeks that unemployed workers claimed Unemployment Insurance benefits.

Weeks Compensated: The number of weeks for which compensation was actually paid.

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