

Idaho Employment

A monthly update of how Idaho's economy is doing in your area

IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Volume 21.9 Idaho Department of Labor
C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER, GOVERNOR

September 2009 Issue / August 2009 Data
ROGER B. MADSEN, DIRECTOR

IN THIS ISSUE

- Current Recession's Job Loss Worst Since the Depression, page 1
- Federal Contractors Face New Hiring Requirement, page 4
- Southwestern Idaho Economic Update, page 5
- Stimulus Program Encourages Creative Thinking, page 7
- August Unemployment Declines in South Central Idaho, page 9
- School District Introduces "Freshman Success," page 9
- Eastern Idaho Businesses Adapt to Economic Conditions, page 12
- Area and County Developments, page 14

State Tables, page 30

Regional Labor Force Tables, page 35

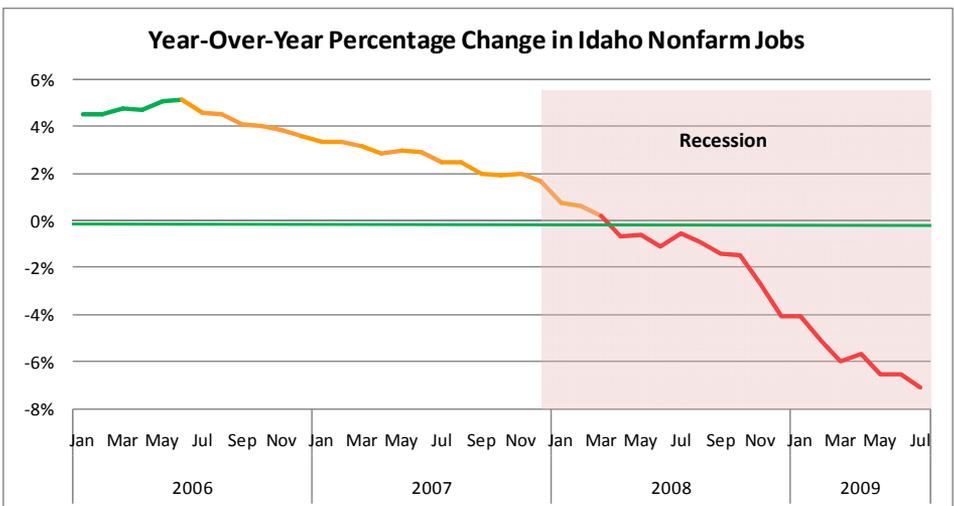
Glossary of Labor Terms, page 42

CURRENT RECESSION'S JOB LOSS WORST SINCE THE DEPRESSION

The housing boom of the mid-2000s turned the Idaho economy into one of the hottest in the nation, driving unemployment to record lows and generating new jobs faster than in nearly every other state.

But by mid-2006, housing prices had peaked and were beginning to decline. Foreclosures were rising rapidly. The housing bubble was bursting and with it Idaho's dramatic expansion following the 2001 recession.

The boom Idaho experienced, led by significant growth in the major urban centers of Boise and Coeur d'Alene and to a lesser extent Idaho Falls and Twin Falls, began subsiding at a steady rate in mid-2006. As the recession officially began in December 2007, Idaho still had almost 2 percent more jobs than in December 2006. But within four months, that slipped into the red, and the rate of job loss accelerated. April 2008 began an unbroken string of monthly year-over-year job losses – a string department analysts predict will not end until early to mid-2010.

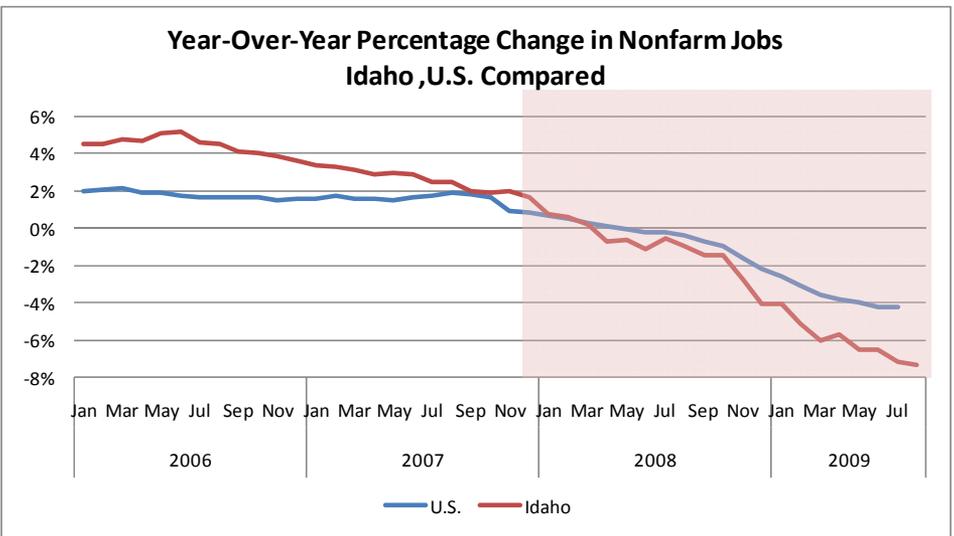


While there were months when the decline appeared to be flattening or even lessening, they were quickly offset by further declines. By February 2009, the percentage of job loss exceeded the 5 percent job loss at the depth of the 1953-1954 recession in Idaho. In March, it dropped below the 5.5 percent bottom of the 1980-1982 recession. It hit 6.5 percent in May and June and then more than 7 percent in July and 7.3 percent in August.

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained below the record 9.4 percent rate recorded from October 1982 through February 1983, but since spring it has been increasing at an unprecedented pace.

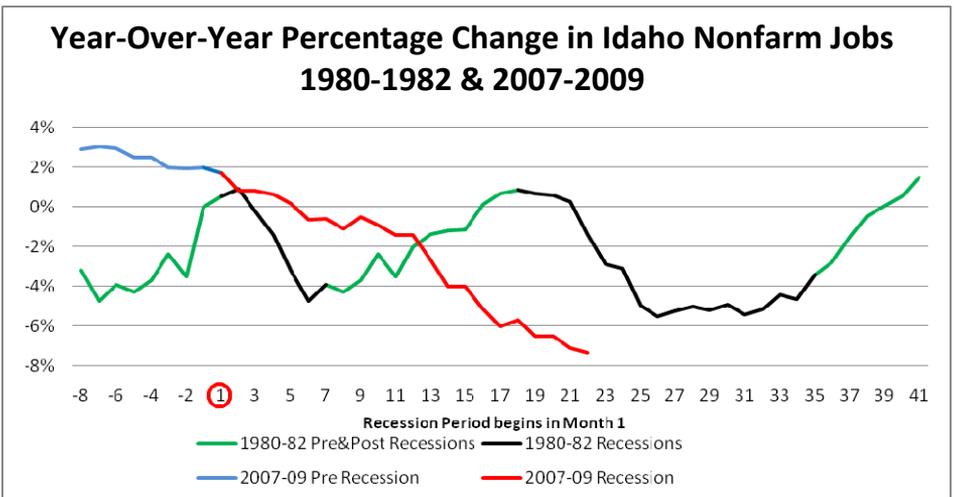
In May 2007, Idaho's unemployment rate was at a record low 2.8 percent and was one of the lowest in the nation. A year later it was 4.5 percent and in April 2009 the unemployment rate stood at 7 percent. In the next three months it jumped to 8.8 percent. Although the rate was higher in the 1980s, tripling the rate in 26 months has never occurred since the Depression.

Idaho grew much faster than the nation during the boom, and it has fallen much harder in the bust.



The national year-over-year job growth during the nearly two years prior to the recession was at or just below 2 percent a month. It fell below 1 percent in November 2007 and bounced just above no growth for several months before going negative in May 2008 and steadily falling to just over 4 percent in June and July 2009.

Idaho, by contrast, was growing by more than 4 percent in the first half of 2006, peaking at over 5 percent in July – more than twice the national growth



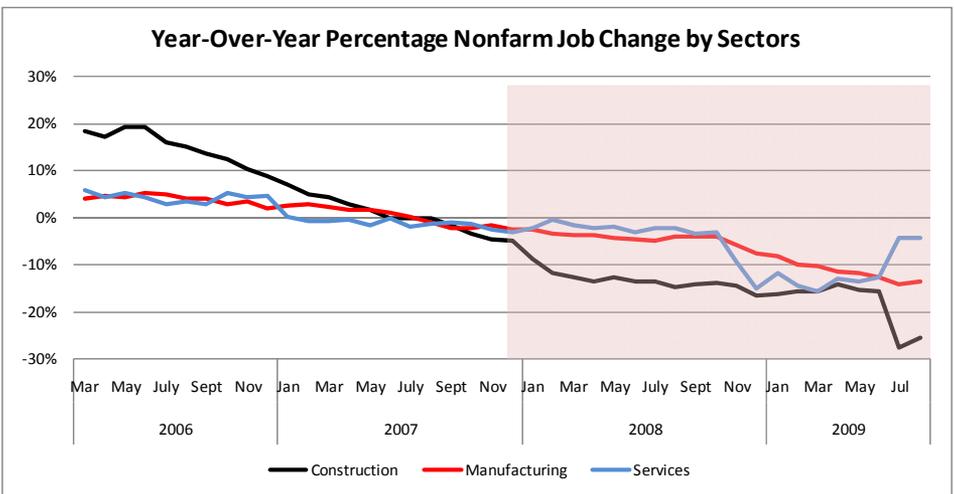
rate. But then the erosion began. Year-over-year growth slipped below 4 percent in November 2006, then dropped under 3 percent in April 2007. By September 2007 it had fallen below 2 percent, and growth was only fractional as 2008 began.

What had been job growth much stronger than the nation's became job loss greater than the nation's in March 2008, and the gap has steadily widened since.

The double dip recessions of the early 1980s kept Idaho's year-over-year job numbers in the negative for the better part of four years. But the current recession, now in its 21st month, has taken the percentage job loss far lower than at any time since the Great Depression.

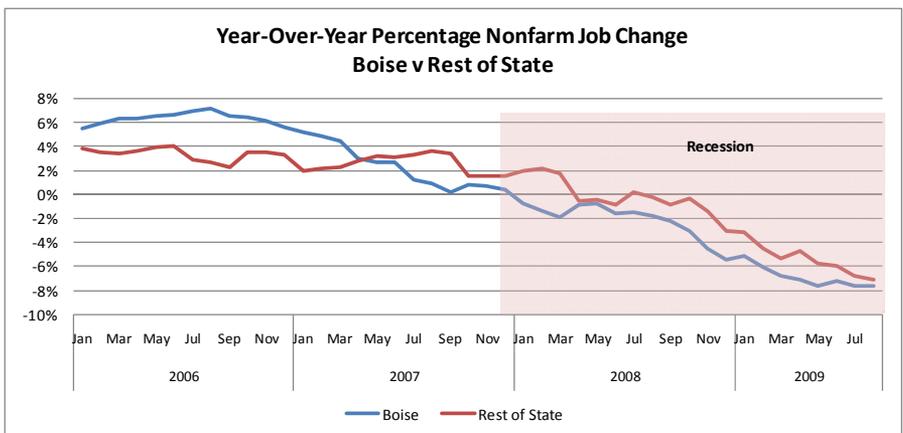
The early signal was the beginning of the residential construction collapse. Construction jobs in Idaho peaked in mid-2006 at over 56,000. By July 2009, the sector had shrunk to 36,000.

Manufacturing began taking notable hits in 2007, exacerbated by the persistent layoffs in the high technology sector led by Micron, which saw employment drop from around 10,000 to 6,000 in the last two years.



It took a while for the impact to be felt from the disappearance of these typically above-average paychecks from the economy. But by early fall 2008, the recession was rippling through the service sector. Call centers were laying off. Demand for business services like accounting and payroll was falling. Some major retailers shut down, and others cut back. Health care seemed to be the only sector showing any growth, and even that was anemic by the end of summer 2009.

Total nonfarm jobs in August 2009 stood at 611,100, lower than every August since 2004.



The brunt of the job loss was in the state's major urban center – the five-county Boise metropolitan area. Following the 2001 recession, the Boise metro area, which accounts for about 40 percent of the state's nonfarm jobs, experienced an expansion driven by construction and population growth that was more robust than the rest of the state. From 2003 to 2007, the metro area gained over 40,000 jobs, nearly half the 87,000 generated statewide. But in the last year as the recession dug into the Idaho economy, the region lost over 21,000 of those jobs while the rest of the state lost 27,000.

The impact followed the statewide trend. Ten thousand construction jobs disappeared from the peak of the housing boom in mid-2006. Another 9,000 manufacturing jobs, most in the high technology sector, were lost over the same period. And in the past year as the loss of those higher paying production jobs rippled through the regional economy, 2,500 retail jobs and over 3,500 service jobs disappeared.

Bob Fick, Communications Manager
(208) 332-3570, ext. 3628
bob.fick@labor.idaho.gov

FEDERAL CONTRACTORS FACE NEW HIRING REQUIREMENT

All federal contractors and subcontractors are now required to use the E-Verify system to validate the eligibility of job applicants to work in the United States.

Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano imposed the restriction this summer, effective Sept. 8. Only employers who use E-Verify to check employee work eligibility will be awarded federal contracts.

E-Verify, which compares information from the Employment Eligibility Verification Form I-9 against federal government databases to verify workers' employment eligibility, is a free Web-based system operated by Homeland Security in partnership with the Social Security Administration. The system fosters compliance with federal immigration laws and helps deter unauthorized individuals from attempting to work. It also helps employers avoid employing unauthorized aliens.

The new verification requirement extends use of E-Verify to federal contractors and subcontractors including those who seek contracts financed by the federal stimulus package.

Companies awarded a contract with the E-Verify clause will be required to enroll in E-Verify within 30 days of the contract award date. E-Verify must be used to confirm the eligibility to legally work in the United States for all new hires, whether employed on a federal contract or not, and all existing employees directly working on federal contracts.

More than 145,000 participating employers at nearly 550,000 worksites nationwide currently use E-Verify to electronically validate their workers' employment eligibility. Since Oct. 1, 2008, more than 7.6 million employment verification queries have been run through the system, and approximately 97 percent are now automatically confirmed as work-authorized within 24 hours.

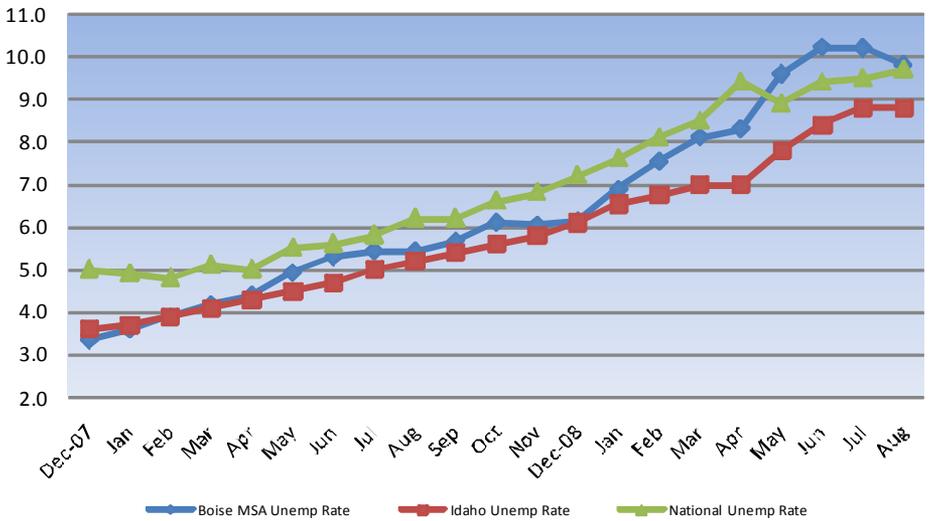
More information on the program is on the E-Verify Web site at www.dhs.gov/e-verify. E-Verify customer support is also available by calling toll free (888) 464-4218.

Janell Hyer, Regional Economist Supervisor
(208) 332-3570 ext. 3220
janell.hyer@labor.idaho.gov

SOUTHWESTERN IDAHO ECONOMIC UPDATE

The metropolitan Boise economy showed little sign of recovery in August. The unemployment rate dipped four-tenths of a percentage point to 9.8 percent after remaining at a record high 10.2 percent in June and July. And total employment increased by 1,200. But the labor force was up just 100, the unemployment rate was still 4.4 percentage points above August 2008 and 6.8 percentage points above August 2007. In the last two years the number of people with jobs has plunged by 26,000. These numbers reflect the recession's significant impact on the area. In February 2008 the metro and state unemployment rates were identical at 3.9 percent. Since then the Boise area's rate has been rising more rapidly. For the last 20 months employment has been below year-earlier levels with the gap in June and July approaching 21,000. The number of jobless workers compared to 12 months earlier has increase from 103 in May 2007 to over 13,000 in June and July 2009. There was a slight drop to just over 12,000 in August.

Figure 1: Boise MSA, Idaho & National Unemployment Rates



Since the recession began in December 2007, the metropolitan area has lost more than 28,000 workers. Over 18,000 joined the ranks of the unemployed while the other 10,000 either left the area or just gave up looking for a job. During this period, the unemployment rate increased 6.4 percentage

Figure 2: Boise MSA Labor Force and Employment

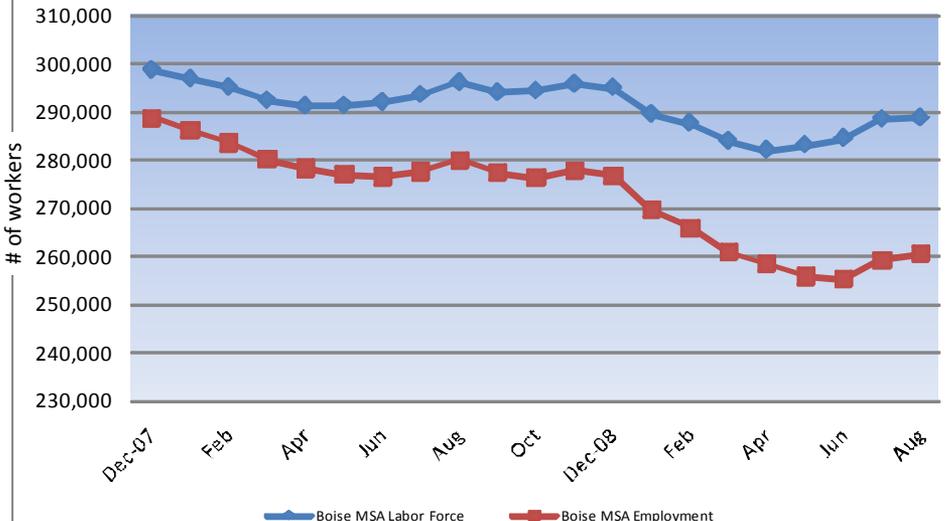
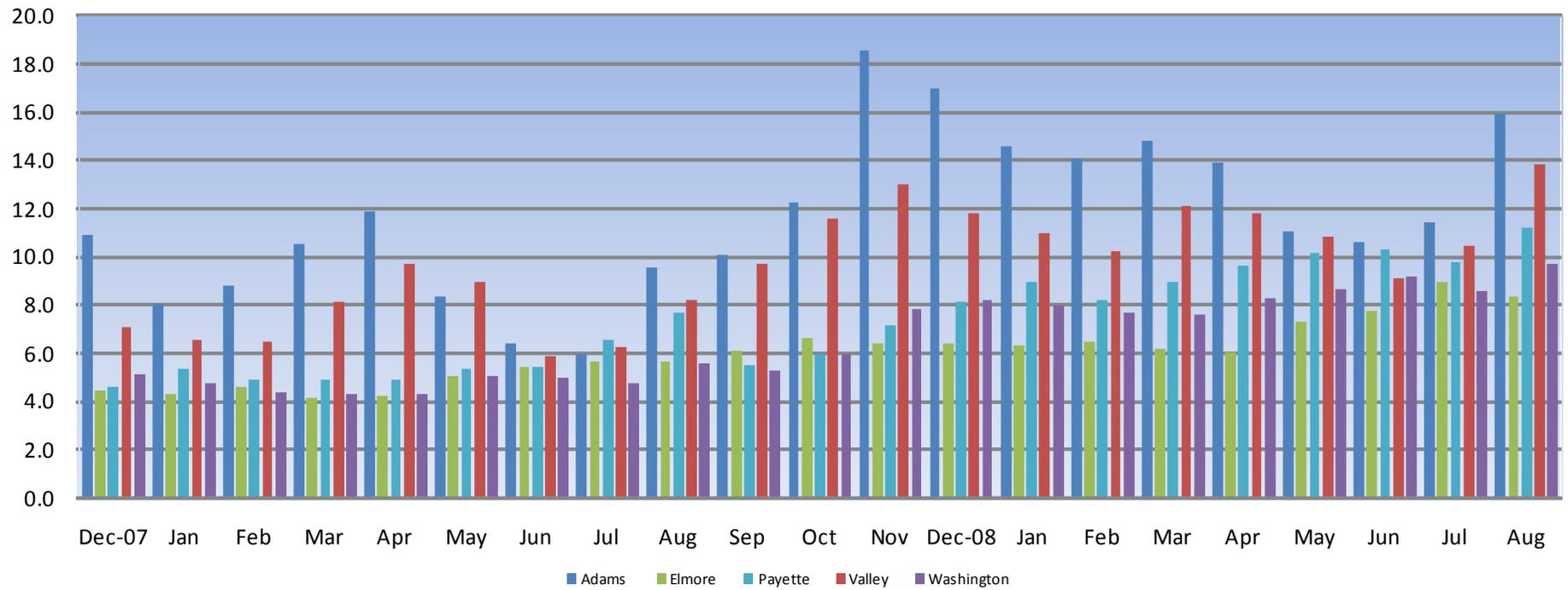


Figure 3: Southwestern Idaho County Unemployment Rates



points. Of the 32,600 workers who have lost their jobs statewide since August 2008, 60 percent are in the Boise metropolitan area.

Of the 15 counties statewide with unemployment rates in the double-digits, five were in southwestern Idaho, and Washington and Ada counties were close at 9.7 percent and 9 percent respectively. Boise and Elmore counties experienced unemployment rates of 8.6 percent and 8.4 percent. Owyhee County had the lowest rate in the state at 4 percent. Adams County had the highest unemployment rate in the state at 15.9 percent. Every county in the region reported an unemployment rate higher than one year ago.

Nonfarm payrolls in the metropolitan area were essentially unchanged from July. With total jobs at just 252,600 in August, the metro area lost nearly 21,000 jobs in the previous 12 months. There were only four sectors to post job gains over the year. The largest, 470, was in state government education. Ambulatory health care services posted a gain of 450 from August 2008. The federal government showed the third largest increase at 240 jobs. Food manufacturing rounded out the growth sectors with 170 more jobs. All other sectors reported job losses. The largest was 4,700 in construction. Administrative services and waste management shed 4,600, computer manufacturing dropped over 3,000, retail trade was down 2,700, health care lost 1,500 in spite of the small growth in ambulatory health care and nearly 1,100 jobs were lost in leisure and hospitality.

The concern in the Boise metropolitan area is job erosion. The absence of seasonal job increases throughout the summer does not bode well for the fall and winter. Food processing should continue to show an increase as the harvest season begins. But if the number of jobs created during the summer tourist season and retail trade are indications, jobs created by the winter recreation and holiday shopping will not exceed or reach 2008 levels.

*Janell Hyer, Regional Economist Supervisor
(208) 332-3570 ext. 3220
janell.hyer@labor.idaho.gov*

STIMULUS PROGRAMS ENCOURAGE CREATIVE THINKING

C.A.R.S.

New auto buyers were in a quandary early on wondering whether their particular clunker fit the government's definition to qualify under the Car Allowance Rebate System, familiarly known as Cash for Clunkers. The initial \$1 billion earmarked for the subsidy ran out within days, and Congress added another \$2 billion that didn't last much longer. If depleting the budget defines success, Cash for Clunkers certainly was. Con Paulos, owner of several car dealerships in south central Idaho said that "for those folks that have held out for a long time and can meet all the criteria in the program it is a really big win! Unfortunately the requirements are a little restrictive and we are finding a lot of folks do not qualify or their vehicle does not qualify, but the end result seems to be increased sales and much higher traffic counts on our lots, which normally will translate into future sales."

Auto dealers were adamant that for their industry to recover, more money had to be ponied up. Although vehicle sales set records, there were many who couldn't qualify – drivers who already had fuel-efficient cars, cars worth more than the highest trade-in value of \$4,500 and people who still wanted to buy gas guzzlers. Many households are still puzzled about the big family that opts for the smaller, energy-efficient model. The question remains whether driving



two energy efficient vehicles is considered any greener than driving one bigger vehicle that by itself leaves a larger carbon footprint.

According to reports, the Toyota Corolla was the top-selling vehicle during Cash for Clunkers followed by the Ford Focus, Honda Civic, Toyota Prius and Toyota Camry. There is one SUV on the list, the Ford Escape, which also comes in a hybrid model that can get up to 32 miles per gallon. Six of the top-10 selling vehicles come from foreign companies although most are built in North America. GM had the largest market share with Toyota second. Detroit manufacturers claimed 45 percent of sales while Japan was at 36 percent.

The top 10 trade-ins were clearly gas guzzlers

1. **Ford Explorer 4WD**
2. **Ford F150 Pickup 2WD**
3. **Jeep Grand Cherokee 4WD**
4. **Jeep Cherokee 4WD**
5. **Ford Explorer 2WD**
6. **Dodge Caravan/Grand Caravan 2WD**
7. **Chevrolet Blazer 4WD**
8. **Ford F150 Pickup 4WD**
9. **Chevrolet C1500 Pickup 2WD**
10. **Ford Windstar FWD Van**

Vehicles Purchased by Category

Passenger Cars 208,378; Category 1 Trucks 124,187; Category 2 Trucks 22,157; Category 3 Trucks 883.

Vehicle Trade-in by Category

Passenger Cars 60,365; Category 1 Trucks 233,704; Category 2 Trucks 58,154; Category 3 Trucks 3,506.

Category 1 – pickups/SUVs with no less than 18 mpg.

Category 2 – large pickups/vans with no less than 15 mpg.

Category 3 – very large vans, SUVs and pickups with a cargo bed of 72 inches or more.

Truck vs. Cars

About 83 percent of trade-ins under the program were trucks, and 59 percent of new vehicle purchases were cars. The program worked far better than anyone anticipated at moving consumers to more fuel-efficient cars.

Average Fuel Economy

New vehicles 25 miles per gallon, trade-ins 15.8 miles per gallon, an overall increase of 9.2 miles per gallon, or 58 percent.

Cars purchased under the program were, on average, 19 percent above the average fuel economy of all new cars currently available and 60 percent above the average fuel economy of cars that were traded in. This means the program raised the average fuel economy of the fleet while getting the dirtiest and most polluting vehicles off the road. The requested voucher dollar amount by state shows Idaho at \$6.86 million, Oregon at \$23 million and Washington at \$32 million. California gets the biggest clunker award with \$152.4 million while Montana and Wyoming were the low riders at \$3.9 million and \$1.2 million, respectively.

HOMES

Another aspect of the stimulus package is the credit for new home buyers. Of course, incentives are a good idea to boost most sales but in housing, scale is fundamental. In this case, the program designers scaled it down too much since most people in the country are not categorized as a first-time home buyer, who have not owned a home in the last three years. The U.S. Census

Bureau's annual community survey shows the nation's homeownership at 67.2 percent in 2007 while Idaho was at 71.6 percent and south central Idaho was fractionally higher than that. The baby boomers and retirees need as much help as the next person in getting through this downturn, yet they have either already paid off their homes or they are settled in their current homes with affordable mortgages in place. The program needs to cover a broader range of consumers and at a greater rate than \$8,000 – at least a \$15,000 tax credit. Second, the government needs to allow that amount to be refunded to those not itemizing on tax returns or not earning enough over their deductions to use up the tax credit because their income is so far off from previous years. Many of these people are unemployed and a tax refund is not even on their radar. The table on pages 10-11 shows distribution of stimulus dollars by state.

Jan Roeser, Regional Economist
(208) 769-1558 ext. 3984
jan.roeser@labor.idaho.gov

AUGUST UNEMPLOYMENT DECLINES IN SOUTH CENTRAL IDAHO

The August decline in the unemployment rate for the Twin Falls-Jerome labor market was not a surprise since August begins the run up to the region's peak employment period. The rate fell from 7.4 percent to 6.8 percent from July. In the last nine years, the rate has risen only once from July to August. The year-over-year increase, while still significant, was less than in July and not atypical for this period considering the high unemployment statewide and nationally. Seasonal hiring is typically up in August and September to handle short-term harvest needs and recall of personnel for the resumption of school. The economy of the Twin Falls-Jerome area has diversified over the years, but agriculture continues to have a major impact. Over the last year, the recession has taken a bite out of payrolls in manufacturing, construction and retail while health care and financial services have held their own and grown slightly.

While the retail decline reflects flagging consumer confidence, its impact is less due to the lower quality of jobs, many low paying, part time and without benefits. Manufacturing and construction jobs typically are full time, pay well, include benefits and offer the potential for overtime. The loss in these industries has had significant repercussions.

Jan Roeser, Regional Economist
(208) 769-1558 ext. 3984
jan.roeser@labor.idaho.gov

SCHOOL DISTRICT INTRODUCES "FRESHMAN SUCCESS"

The Pocatello-Chubbuck School District 25 changed from a semester system to a trimester system this year, and because of that, the district is offering more courses for students attending high school and middle school. This also opened the way to requiring all high school freshmen to enroll in a new course called Freshman Success. The course helps students understand how the choices they make now will affect their lives in the future. The lesson plan includes Navigating High School, Study Skills, Defining Yourself, Career Choices and Workplace Readiness. Each unit helps make students aware of what is needed to succeed in school and in the workplace. The district is using the electronic version of the Idaho Department of Labor's Career Information System, also called eCIS, for lessons on Career Choices and Work Place Readiness. By using eCIS students will begin to understand their own personal motivations and how those motivations relate to future lifestyles. After students

Stimulus Money Investments by State

State/Territory	Announced (\$ Thousand)	Made Available (\$ Thousand)	Paid Out (\$ Thousand)
Alabama	\$3,332,133.82	\$2,408,639.20	\$658,708.60
Alaska	\$1,428,822.61	\$789,986.76	\$116,297.96
American Samoa	\$67,797.80	\$28,249.98	\$2,886.27
Arizona	\$5,185,007.33	\$3,497,921.90	\$1,449,176.70
Arkansas	\$2,166,172.69	\$1,475,233.78	\$474,143.12
California	\$26,098,105.50	\$19,266,380.07	\$11,471,840.78
Colorado	\$3,588,316.01	\$2,235,248.57	\$765,303.82
Connecticut	\$2,615,773.92	\$2,138,585.75	\$852,828.28
Delaware	\$812,220.61	\$539,789.04	\$171,053.27
District of Columbia	\$2,329,224.43	\$2,201,015.35	\$319,199.34
Federated States of Micronesia	\$5,116.63	\$4,731.63	\$854.09
Florida	\$11,293,502.07	\$8,437,622.23	\$3,049,161.06
Georgia	\$6,483,945.55	\$4,679,369.61	\$1,825,799.66
Guam	\$182,562.33	\$77,283.94	\$14,582.91
Hawaii	\$1,389,381.12	\$698,939.78	\$232,092.04
Idaho	\$1,665,598.77	\$807,166.44	\$235,047.91
Illinois	\$10,214,311.19	\$7,221,383.58	\$3,772,069.68
Indiana	\$4,629,420.21	\$3,519,515.22	\$1,615,506.56
Iowa	\$2,242,189.38	\$1,791,116.01	\$603,805.97
Kansas	\$2,060,612.73	\$1,344,662.98	\$372,553.98
Kentucky	\$3,162,715.63	\$2,194,820.68	\$698,882.09
Louisiana	\$3,357,866.13	\$2,334,644.79	\$594,674.09
Maine	\$1,226,106.82	\$899,369.90	\$357,332.49
Marshall Islands	\$2,989.34	\$2,774.34	\$801.12
Maryland	\$4,084,168.88	\$2,728,829.86	\$855,422.45
Massachusetts	\$5,570,147.99	\$4,542,913.29	\$2,091,519.73
Michigan	\$7,221,216.59	\$5,572,955.02	\$2,721,922.44
Minnesota	\$3,849,323.11	\$3,052,970.70	\$1,206,863.43
Mississippi	\$2,439,422.66	\$1,618,440.65	\$487,985.74
Missouri	\$4,403,602.07	\$3,149,256.06	\$970,846.34

Continued on next page

Stimulus Money Investments by State *(continued)*

State/Territory	Announced (\$ Thousand)	Made Available (\$ Thousand)	Paid Out (\$ Thousand)
Montana	\$1,169,338.74	\$628,997.51	\$131,110.75
Nebraska	\$1,304,150.76	\$858,370.02	\$162,160.18
Nevada	\$1,644,072.25	\$1,051,799.06	\$336,741.34
New Hampshire	\$1,354,778.23	\$680,903.44	\$136,741.80
New Jersey	\$5,391,053.03	\$4,354,376.64	\$2,111,695.30
New Mexico	\$2,417,006.01	\$1,163,686.14	\$181,191.68
New York	\$18,167,530.86	\$14,193,195.69	\$5,807,441.24
North Carolina	\$5,900,696.25	\$4,306,730.63	\$1,991,303.50
North Dakota	\$800,752.90	\$467,756.66	\$78,207.84
Northern Mariana Islands	\$53,045.51	\$25,640.76	\$331.75
Ohio	\$8,028,588.76	\$5,935,327.28	\$2,043,236.32
Oklahoma	\$2,844,903.56	\$2,070,303.31	\$696,559.49
Oregon	\$2,875,952.44	\$2,085,988.29	\$906,214.10
Palau	\$2,105.17	\$2,164.46	\$581.01
Pennsylvania	\$8,704,279.93	\$5,173,356.11	\$2,284,711.41
Puerto Rico	\$3,398,088.07	\$2,354,119.53	\$684,847.00
Rhode Island	\$1,023,440.82	\$850,530.93	\$365,908.69
South Carolina	\$4,625,592.44	\$2,174,629.36	\$724,617.55
South Dakota	\$990,674.59	\$559,444.59	\$151,360.92
Tennessee	\$5,245,337.39	\$3,442,700.73	\$1,071,609.47
Texas	\$16,682,867.57	\$10,800,389.49	\$2,938,798.78
U.S. Minor Outlying Islands	\$4,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
U.S. Virgin Islands	\$131,963.21	\$80,671.62	\$10,670.83
Utah	\$1,920,270.15	\$1,376,722.49	\$557,601.14
Vermont	\$621,916.98	\$479,578.87	\$157,882.78
Virginia	\$5,078,630.82	\$3,107,122.89	\$915,144.61
Washington	\$6,871,479.04	\$3,449,898.89	\$1,460,437.30
West Virginia	\$1,458,186.53	\$1,048,679.31	\$265,231.52
Wisconsin	\$3,751,976.88	\$2,702,708.65	\$1,427,353.01
Wyoming	\$625,619.51	\$421,519.75	\$71,752.92

:Source: Agency [Funding Notifications](#), Agency [Financial and Activity Reports](#), [Recovery.gov](#)

have chosen the lifestyle they want to be living in 10 to 15 years, eCIS will allow students to match careers which are most likely able to support their choice. The program then allows students to examine a typical educational path needed for the careers they found they need to live the lifestyle they chose. Career Information Systems can be accessed at www.idahocis.org.

Scott Hobdey Regional Economist
(208) 236-6710, ext. 3713
scott.hobdey@labor.idaho.gov

EASTERN IDAHO BUSINESSES ADAPT TO ECONOMIC SITUATION

The recession has Idaho Falls metropolitan area and all of eastern Idaho dealing with the worst economy they have seen in nearly 30 years. Jobs in the metro area are down 2,200 from August 2008. Local Idaho Department of Labor offices have only 20 percent of the job listings they would be carrying in a normal economy. The [Conference Board](#) estimates there are at least four unemployed workers for every job posted online.

In an ongoing battle to save money as consumer confidence flags, employers have cut hours and sometimes employees, reduced expenditures and sought alternate suppliers and product brands while watching energy use and even store hours to stay afloat. Instead of sales ahead of holidays, there are sales constantly.

But desperate times call for desperate measures, and while there are some signs of the economy at least stabilizing, it remains an uphill road that is sparking some creativity.

A noticeable response has been the shift to alternative advertising. Mailers and newspaper inserts are being shared by multiple businesses and coming out daily. Internet advertising is catching on, and many companies are starting Web pages so "Googlers" can find them.

Where sidewalk promoters armed with signs used to be seen on a corner or two in the bigger cities, now these promoters can be seen dancing on nearly every major street corner.

Street vendors are also on the rise. Peaches, corn and other fruits and vegetables are being sold in such abundance that going to the supermarket is hardly necessary. Even Tupperware and other goods, once the bastion of traditional stores or home presentations, are now available with a quick turn into the parking lot and the street vendors working there.

Some companies are selling their products through a multilevel-marketing setup that can be easily accessed through the Internet or friends. Some of their products have been sold locally for years. But that has also opened the door to scams that have popped up to attract the desperate and unknowing.

And while the word foreclosure has become a household word, alternatives like "short sale" are increasingly common in eastern Idaho. Not close to what the name implies, the short sale can take anywhere from two to six or more months to finalize. In this transaction, the proceeds from the real estate sale fall short of the balance owed on the mortgage secured by the property, but the lender may be willing to take a loss because of the general economic situation. However, every step on the way to these sales has to be approved by the lender, who may well refuse to accept a deal that carries too great a loss. Short sales are typically one step away from foreclosure. While there has been a frenzy of home buying in the last several months, spurred in part by the \$8,000 first-time buyer federal tax incentive, those caught up in short sales may not make the current Nov. 30 deadline for completing sales eligible for

the tax break. There are also an abundance of homes that are available only for cash or conventional financing. But with so much real estate on the market, many sellers are more willing to negotiate on the price as the end of the year gets closer.

Tanya Albán, Regional Economist
(208) 557-2500, ext. 3587
tanya.alban@labor.idaho.gov

Census Facts

Unmarried and Single Americans Week Sept. 20-26, 2009

“National Singles Week” was started by the Buckeye Singles Council in Ohio in the 1980s to celebrate single life and recognize singles and their contributions to society. The week is now widely observed during the third full week of September as “Unmarried and Single Americans Week,” an acknowledgment that many unmarried Americans do not identify with the word “single” because they are parents, have partners or are widowed. In this reference, unmarried people include those who were never married, widowed or divorced, unless otherwise noted.

95.9 million

Number of unmarried Americans 18 and older in 2008. This group comprised 43 percent of all U.S. residents 18 and older.

61%

Percentage of unmarried Americans 18 and older who had never been married. Another 24 percent were divorced and 15 percent were widowed.

32.2 million

Number of people who lived alone. They comprised 28 percent of all households, up from 17 percent in 1970.

15.8 million

Number of unmarried Americans 65 and older. These older Americans comprised 16 percent of all unmarried and single people 18 and older.

52.9 million

Number of households maintained by unmarried men or women. These households comprised 45 percent of households nationwide.

Source: *America's Families and Living Arrangements: 2008*
<http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/releases/archives/families_households/013378.html>

United States
Census
2010



Area and County Developments

PANHANDLE

Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, Kootenai & Shoshone counties

COUNTY DEVELOPMENTS

BENEWAH COUNTY

- Potlatch Corp. recently closed its log yard at Clarkia, where it stored, sorted and shipped logs to area mills and primarily on its rail line to St. Maries. Now Potlatch is doing some of the sorting in the woods and transporting logs directly to the mills for processing. Potlatch is also harvesting more timber in other locations. Its St. Maries River Railroad probably will no longer run to Clarkia. The railroad will continue to transport finished wood products from St. Maries to Plummer, where the Union Pacific Railroad takes the rail cars and delivers the freight to its final destinations.
- The Idaho Department of Labor office in St. Maries assisted 1,970 job seekers in the fiscal year that ended June 30. That was 23 percent more than the year before. The surge was the result of people losing their jobs during the long recession. The recession's effects also are evident in the reduced number of job openings listed with the St. Maries office. After falling 21 percent from June 2007 to June 2008, listings dropped another 15 percent from last June to June 2009.
- Under the first summer youth program in a decade, financed by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the Idaho Department of Labor office in St. Maries put 45 young people to work at nonprofit and government organizations throughout the greater St. Joe Valley.
- Timber Plus, the economic development organization serving the greater St. Joe area, recently received a \$9,000 grant to improve the Fernwood-Santa sewer system, which has been fighting to keep its aging infrastructure functioning properly. The main problem is infiltration, which allows storm water to seep in, making pumps overwork and causing sewage to overflow. In January, infiltration caused a Fernwood manhole to overflow into the St. Maries River, and Santa and Fernwood residents were asked to reduce water usage. Improvements include two monitors, which will allow researchers to gauge flow and determine where the leaks are occurring. Engineers currently have to go into the pipes and take measurements manually. Once the monitors are in place, engineers will watch them for 12 months and submit their findings to Timber Plus, which plans to use the data to bring in larger grants to fix the system.

BONNER COUNTY

- A Sandpoint manufacturer landed on Inc. magazine's list of the 5,000 fastest-growing private companies in the U.S. Pure Health Solutions saw its revenues grow 125 percent from \$7.8 million in 2005 to \$17.7 million in 2008. The company designs, manufactures and distributes water purification systems. It was created in 1996 to eliminate the hassles of lifting and storing five-gallon water containers. Today, its customers want to eliminate the environmental problems associated with plastic water bottles. Pure Health employs 59 people.

- A group of film industry professionals started the Northwest Film Institute a few years ago to promote film-making in the Sandpoint area. They hope to create a graduate-level film school in Sandpoint. The institute would offer a one-year program with students receiving both classroom instruction and hands-on moviemaking experience. Students would work in an equipped studio available around the clock. Shorter, more introductory courses would also be offered. With the proliferation of media seeking content, from the Internet to cable to video, they believe there will be many opportunities for film school graduates. The film institute commissioned a feasibility study in 2008 that showed a projected growth in most film industry jobs of about 20 percent from 2006 to 2016, and that film schools received many more applications for admission than they accepted. The group needs to raise several hundred thousand dollars before it can open the institute. A building that once housed emergency medical technicians across from Bonner General Hospital has space for a sound stage, offices and classrooms.
- Sackett Contracting & Excavating of Nordman won a \$3.2 million contract to construct the second phase of a wastewater treatment system for the Granite Reeder Water and Sewer District in Nordman, an unincorporated town 35 miles north of Priest River. Sackett is constructing a collection system that will include 52,000 linear feet of sewer pipes and three pumping stations. The project, which will last about 14 months, will connect more than 200 homes to a treatment facility that was constructed in the project's first phase. Bids likely will be sought later this year for the third and final phase of the project, in which another trunk line will be added.
- Western Bonner County — including Priest River, Priest Lake, Oldtown and Laclede — has suffered greatly during the last two years. Of the 33 Bonner County employers that had 50 or more employees in June 2008, seven were in the Priest River area. Between June 2008 and June 2009, one of the seven — JD Lumber — closed, putting 220 people out of work, and the others lost 80 jobs. In the same period, the rest of the county's large employers lost only 66 jobs. Between June 2007 and June 2008, the seven largest employers in the Priest River area lost 125 jobs. Over the two-year period, they lost 40 percent of the 1,050 jobs they had in June 2007. Of the same 33 employers, only three added five or more jobs between June 2008 and June 2009. The biggest source of new jobs was Quest Aircraft, where employment increased from 225 to 300. Two other manufacturers — Unicep Packaging and Cygnus — added about 80 jobs between the two of them.
- Bonner County, the city of Sandpoint, the Idaho Department of Lands, the U.S. Forest Service and the postal service have been stabilizing influences on the county's economy during this recession. Those government entities were joined by Bonner General Hospital, the Valley Vista skilled care center and grocery stores such as Mitchell's IGA, Yoke's and Safeway. Thorne Research, the Dover manufacturer of nutritional supplements, and Litehouse, the Sandpoint maker of salad dressings, held their own despite the recession. Tourist facilities and the school districts showed mild declines. Construction-related companies, lumber mills, Coldwater Creek and manufacturers of consumer goods took the hardest hits.
- Downtown Sandpoint's newest addition, Wildflower Day Spa, provides a full range of services, including massage, facials, body treatment, waxing and tinting. It also offers wellness and life coaching.

BOUNDARY COUNTY

- Two Bonners Ferry businesses were damaged by fire in August. Riverside Auto's 25-year-old showroom and offices were destroyed on Aug. 3, and a day later fire ravaged TrussTek, the manufacturer of engineered roof and floor trusses north of Bonners Ferry. Established in 1990, TrussTek was the county's third largest mill, employing more than 50 people in 2007 before the U.S. housing market collapse. The mill probably will be rebuilt. Fortunately, TrussTek employees rescued two database servers, which will allow it to rebuild its customer contacts.
- The Boundary Economic Development Council reported about 6,800 visitors passed through the doors of the Bonners Ferry visitor center in the first seven months of the year – a 14 percent increase over the first seven months of 2008. More visitors came from shorter distances.
- Badger Building Center plans a store in Bonners Ferry within two years. The building materials store, planned for U.S. 95, will be the fourth in the chain founded 26 years ago by Mike and Sandy Badger in Sandpoint and will employ up to a dozen workers.
- An old fashioned candy store opened this summer in Bonners Ferry. Something Sweet features higher quality candies such as Belgian chocolates. It also offers summer sausage, Wisconsin cheese, gourmet crackers, a wide array of mustard, Amish products including fruit butter, salsas, barbecue sauces, huckleberry products and gourmet mixes.

KOOTENAI COUNTY

- Wood products manufacturing, the county's mainstay industry, lost 720 jobs between 1988 and 2008 and an estimated 150 between 2008 and 2009. Today, it employs 660 people. Between 1988 and 2008, other manufacturing operations added 2,760 jobs. Currently, those companies employ 3,870 people. So, Kootenai County's manufacturing base has diversified considerably since the 1970s. Even in the current recession, Kootenai County has managed to hold on to its non-wood manufacturing jobs – even as the nation lost 2 million manufacturing jobs on top of the 4.5 million lost between 1988 and 2008.
- Blue Water Technologies Inc. in Hayden has been awarded a \$400,000 subcontract to install its phosphorus-removal system in the wastewater treatment plant being built for Plummer. Blue Water is scheduled to begin its work in November and finish by early next spring. Blue Water, which was created in 2004 as a technology transfer from the University of Idaho, makes a system that lowers phosphorus to minimal levels by filtering the water through chemically enhanced sand. Blue Water employs 24 people.
- High unemployment rates combined with sharp increases in tuition at universities are leading more students to apply to North Idaho College. People are seeking two-year degrees tied to employment in specific industries. They also are getting their general equivalency diplomas to compete for entry-level jobs or taking less expensive credits en route to four-year degrees. After rapid growth last fall, the school reported an increase in summer enrollment of 22 percent. This fall's enrollment of 5,659 is 16.5 percent above last fall.
- North Idaho College's Workforce Training Center posted an 8.9 percent increase in enrollment for fiscal year 2009. The number of people taking classes grew to 8,272 from 7,595 in fiscal year 2008. Work force development includes an apprenticeship program, community education, customized training and the Idaho Small Business Development Center. The fastest growth was in health care, especially the new online certified nursing assistant program. The only area that saw low enrollments was personal

enrichment classes, whose enrollment fell as people tightened their discretionary spending.

- Bullet Tools in Hayden recently was recognized as the Idaho Exporter of the Year for 2009. Three-fifths of the company's revenues come from outside the U.S. The company makes tools for the flooring, siding and roofing industries. This year, Bullet Tools released a completely new lightweight tool, the MagShear Lite, which cuts many types of residential flooring and siding materials without creating dust or using electricity.
- Federal stimulus money is making a difference in the Panhandle. The Hayden Community Action Partnership received \$2 million to weatherize low-income housing. A Community Oriented Policing grant of \$728,625 will fund three new police patrol positions in Coeur d'Alene. About 120 youth were employed this summer at 30 Kootenai County agencies and nonprofits through an Idaho Department of Labor program funded by stimulus dollars.
- Advanced Input Systems is expanding its Coeur d'Alene manufacturing plant by 54,000 square feet, creating additional production capacity and office space in anticipation of future growth. The addition will bring the total square footage to 139,000. Advanced Input Systems, a wholly owned subsidiary of Esterline, employs 325 at the Coeur d'Alene plant, where it makes keyboards, control panels and interface devices for a variety of industries. Significant growth over the last four years forced Advanced Input Systems to expand into some trailers next to the plant and some off-site locations. After the expansion, everything will be under one roof again. Although the company laid off 26 workers in June, its long-term prospects for growth are excellent.
- Garlic Jim's Famous Gourmet Pizza opened in Coeur d'Alene. The restaurant employs 20 people.

SHOSHONE COUNTY

- Hoffman's Boots in Kellogg is synonymous with American-made, high-quality and family-owned. Today's owners are the great grandchildren of the founder. It started in 1926 as a repair shop. One day a logger asked to have cold-weather boots spiked. Hoffman's installed the spikes, which gave better grip on slippery logs and uneven terrain. Soon, it became a small boot factory, well-known for its reliable, rugged footwear for loggers, linemen, firefighters and other outdoor workers. Their specialized footwear kept feet warm on the coldest days. By the 1970s, it was a family shoe store. Fire destroyed the building in 1979, but Hoffman's rebuilt with branch locations in Pinehurst and Post Falls. In the mid-1980s, Hoffman's moved to its current location in downtown Kellogg, sharing one half of the building with St. Vincent de Paul. Hoffman's employs 12 people manufacturing boots and is one of the few American boot makers left. The Post Falls store recently closed its doors, but Hoffman's Boots in Kellogg is still going strong after 83 years.
- The 48 employers in Shoshone County that had 20 or more employees expanded payrolls in the 12 months through June 2008 by 361 to 3,356 as the silver mines expanded. But all but nine of those jobs were lost in the following year as mining contracted again. The largest job loss came from last fall's closure of the Sunshine Mine, which employed nearly 200 people. Other mines and mining service companies lost about 90 jobs. Tourism businesses added 24 jobs and health care providers added another 10 jobs while retailers cut 40 jobs and manufacturers lost 25 jobs.

Kathryn Tacke, Regional Economist

(208) 769-1558 ext. 3984

kathryn.tacke@labor.idaho.gov

NORTH CENTRAL IDAHO

Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis and Nez Perce counties

COUNTY DEVELOPMENTS

CLEARWATER COUNTY

- The city of Orofino received a grant from Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation to build a sportsmen's access on the Clearwater River across from the industrial park so one of the tenants, SJX Boats, can test and demonstrate its Muscledjon jet boats. SJX Boats, which moved its production facility from Lewiston to the industrial park last year, is the primary reason that Clearwater County's manufacturing employment grew from 205 in June 2008 to 222 in June 2009. It employs about a dozen people in Orofino. The other major source of growth was Nightforce Optics, which employs nearly 50 people making high-quality rifle scopes for hunters, police and the military.

IDAHO AND LEWIS COUNTIES

- Mike and Marcia Graves recently added a thrift store to their GreenThumb Nursery on State Highway 13 near the high school in Kamiah. They believe a thrift store will help local people stretch their dollars further during these economic hard times. It also makes their business year-round.
- The auction of Three Rivers Mill was canceled in early August because there were no qualified bidders. The mill, which was Kamiah's largest private employer before it closed in November, was to be auctioned as a single package for a \$6 million minimum bid. Kamiah residents had hoped a buyer would reopen the mill that had 90 employees when it closed. Given the terrible difficulties faced by the timber industry, the failure to sell the mill was not surprising.
- The Ida-Lew Economic Development Council serving Idaho and Lewis counties recently determined that 266 employers in Grangeville provide about 2,600 jobs with a payroll of \$68 million. The city has a population of just over 3,100. The U.S. Forest Service, the school district, Idaho County and other governmental employers provide about 740 jobs while 14 manufacturers are behind another 200. Forty-six retailers and wholesalers are responsible for 420 jobs, and 19 health care and social assistance providers employ 240. Riggins, a town of 418 about 45 miles south of Grangeville, has begun to expand its tourism opportunities, and the council found the 67 employers in Riggins, Pollock and Lucille provide 340 jobs with a payroll of \$5.1 million. The largest sectors are retail, government, accommodations and food service.

LATAH COUNTY

- Latah County is using a \$151,500 federal stimulus grant for energy efficiency to purchase new boilers, upgrade lighting, replace cooling systems and add bicycle stations. The county will also develop a long-term energy efficiency strategy for the county courthouse, jail, McConnell Mansion and the fairgrounds.
- Camas Prairie Winery in downtown Moscow landed a federal Rural Energy for America grant to add solar panels to reduce its energy costs. Last month, the winery's Avista electricity and natural gas bill was \$180, compared to \$420 in the same month the year before.
- Moscow-based Economic Modeling Specialists Inc. placed higher than any other Idaho company on Inc. magazine's list of the 5,000 fastest-growing private companies in the U.S. EMSI revenues grew 631 percent between

2005 and 2008, making it the 409th fastest-growing company in the nation. Founded in 1995, EMSI today employs 55 people at Alturas Technology Park. A year ago, it employed 40. EMSI builds Web tools used by work force agencies, economic development organizations, community colleges and companies to analyze labor market and economic trends.

- When students started classes on Aug. 24, construction continued on two University of Idaho landmarks. The \$10 million in safety improvements at the Kibbie Dome were coming to a close. Work still is under way on the Memorial Gymnasium. Crews are cleaning the outside, and the gym's concrete gargoyles have been sent to Portland for a special cleaning.

Gargoyle on exterior of Memorial Gym, University of Idaho. *Photo courtesy of University of Idaho.*



- Latah County accepted title to 8.4 more miles of abandoned railroad right-of-way this summer in Bear Creek Canyon between Troy and Kendrick. The county already owns 12 miles of trail between Moscow and Troy and another 5.5 miles between Kendrick and Juliaetta that opened in 2008. The new trail, which may open as early as next year, goes down a gentle 3 percent grade from Troy through forests toward Kendrick. The Latah Trail Foundation must first retrofit nine railroad bridges with hand rails. The trails are part of the [Rails-to-Trails Conservancy](#) network of trails across the country.

NEZ PERCE AND ASOTIN COUNTIES

- U.S. News and World Report recently put Lewiston on its list of top 10 places to live for pet owners. The magazine's rankings were based on weather, population density and availability of green space such as parks. Lewiston scored high marks for its mild climate, 20 public parks in the city and "seven square miles of green space within 15 miles."
- Lewiston has been receiving considerable national attention. It was recognized earlier this year by Outdoor Life magazine as the top town in the nation for people who love to hunt and fish. Sunset magazine named Hells Gate State Park one of the top campgrounds in the Pacific Northwest. National Geographic Adventure recognized the town for its proximity to water-based recreation. An insurance group named Lewiston the sixth safest place to live in the country.
- Lewis-Clark State College celebrated the grand opening of its \$16 million nursing and health science facility Aug. 28, three days before classes began. The building increases the school's capacity to train nurses.
- Valley Vision, the nonprofit organization promoting economic development in the Lewis-Clark Valley, is advertising in the October edition of Horizon Airline's in-flight magazine, which features Idaho. The ad focuses on the valley's low business costs, port system, mild climate and quality of life. Valley Vision uses many avenues to bring the valley to the attention of businesses that may relocate including direct mail, telemarketing, trade shows and its Web site.
- Wal-Mart opened its new Clarkston store Sept. 2 after closing its Lewiston store the day before. The new 184,000-square-foot supercenter employs nearly 500 people, while the 117,000-square-foot Lewiston store employed 280 people. The Lewiston employees transferred to the new store, and Wal-Mart hired an additional 220 people. The new Wal-Mart also houses a Subway sandwich shop, a Potlatch No. 1 Federal Credit Union

branch and SmartStyle Family Hair Salon. The city of Clarkston made more than \$1 million in traffic improvements to handle the 10,000 vehicle trips per day the supercenter is expected to create and hired an extra police officer to handle that additional traffic. The costs will be defrayed by the city's share of the sales tax generated by the Wal-Mart supercenter. Washington State distributes its sale tax based on where the sales are generated. Idaho distributes its sales tax based on population so Clarkston's gain won't be Lewiston's loss.

- Downtown Lewiston is showing new vitality. During the last year, a new downtown business association has formed. It's working hard to improve the district and attract new businesses. La Boheme, a European-style bistro, opened in August at Morgan's Alley, a historic building that is home to several stores, restaurants and offices. Another mixed-use building, the Towne Square Building, currently is under renovation. The existing 4,000-square-foot restaurant space will be split into two separate spaces. The Main Street front will receive a new façade including awnings for sidewalk dining. The Main Street side will contain a restaurant, and the F Street side will contain a jazz club expected to open before Nov. 1.
- Nez Perce County's 131 businesses employing 25 or more lost 1 percent of their employees between June 2008 and June 2009. Payrolls fell from 14,814 to 14,662. But even that loss is a model of stability compared to the 3.9 percent job loss in the nation and the 6.5 percent job loss in Idaho. Only one business, Old Country Buffet, closed. Another 32 lost five or more jobs, while 25 added five or more jobs. Much of the stability can be attributed to the county's largest employers — Clearwater Paper, St. Joseph Medical Center, ATK Inc., the Nez Perce Tribe, the Lewiston school district, Lewis-Clark State College and Regence BlueShield. Although the county lost 280 jobs Sept. 1, when Wal-Mart closed its Lewiston store, the people who had those jobs are not out of work since they transferred to the new Clarkston supercenter.

Kathryn Tacke, Regional Economist
(208) 769-1558 ext. 3984
kathryn.tacke@labor.idaho.gov

SOUTHWESTERN IDAHO

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

COUNTY DEVELOPMENTS

ADA COUNTY

- The tight economy has had a negative impact on not only single family dwellings but condos in downtown Boise. Most developers are just hanging on as sales slide from last year. But at least one has become proactive. CitySide Lofts in Boise is auctioning five units in September with no minimum bid after seeing a few condo auctions in McCall succeed. If the five go for fair prices, 20 more units may be put up for auction.
- Advanced Precision Machining has retooled its plant to manufacture a new line of shotguns that is the brainchild of Jim Bentley of Krow Innovation of Boise. The shotguns will be accessorized by Blackhawk Products of Meridian. Legacy Sports, an international firearms importer and distributor based in Nevada, has ordered 1,000 of the guns, and that could result in Advanced Precision Machining as much as doubling its payroll to 30.
- Trinity Health, the national Catholic hospital system that owns Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise, has signed a letter of intent

to buy Mercy Medical Center in Nampa and two smaller hospitals in Oregon. The agreement calls for transferring the three hospitals, all owned by Catholic Health Initiatives, to Trinity Health, creating a new regional hospital system. The Oregon hospitals are Holy Rosary Medical Center in Ontario and St. Elizabeth Health Services in Baker City. Current operations will not be affected, all facilities will remain open and most employees will be retained should the purchase be finalized. Currently there are fewer than 600 employees at Mercy Medical Center.

- As the fall semester began at the College of Western Idaho, enrollment soared from just under 1,200 last January to about 3,400 at the semester's start Aug. 24. The majority of the students are 19 to 24 years old and three-quarters live in Ada County. Ada and Canyon county residents voted to tax themselves for a community college to create to school. At the end of the first semester, the school employed over 150 with a probable increase for the fall semester. The growth underscores the need for professional-technical and continuing education as students and out-of-work people go back to school to sharpen their skills or prepare for new careers.



CANYON COUNTY

- Farmers markets are experiencing more activity this year. Caldwell reported a substantial growth despite - and possibly because of - the deep recession. The number of vendors at the weekly market has nearly doubled since last year to nearly 25 booths. Organizers believe that people are trying to find any niche they can. The weekly market generally draws up to 500 people, with more people coming out for themed festivals and special end-of-the-month events. The Caldwell market is in its fourth year and like other local markets provides full-time farmers, casual gardeners and others a place to sell the fruits of their labors.
- Slow ticket sales and fewer shows have contributed to work force cuts at Nampa's two major entertainment venues. The Nampa Civic Center did not fill a part-time and four full-time positions, cutting the staff to eight. Lost were a technical director, lighting director, event coordinator, marketing development coordinator and a part-time marketing and graphic designer. The Idaho Center has also eliminated positions but did not disclose the number. While season ticket sales for this year's concert series at the Nampa Civic Center were better than expected, some events were canceled. Projected revenue for the Civic Center for fiscal year 2010 is down from this year by almost \$90,000. The Idaho Center has reported a drop of up to 30 percent in attendance at some events. In tight economic times, household entertainment budgets are one of the first things cut.
- Darby's at the Market is slated to open in mid-October in downtown Nampa in the spot formerly occupied by Market Limone. The new restaurant will give a different focus to each of the building's three levels. The lower floor will include a dance area, bar and lounge. The main area will have a casual and family friendly feel. The upper level could house business meetings or private dinners. The menu will be homemade with prime rib the planned specialty and a range of other dishes including sirloin steaks, lamb chops and seafood. Future plans include catering and events.
- The Oasis Food Center in Caldwell opened a new facility in August, expanding its charitable work through a larger pantry and soup kitchen. Oasis has been serving about 100 to 130 hot meals one day a week to those in need

and proving food assistance to between 125 and 175 families. Its Summer Feeding Program provided nearly 300,000 meals in local parks this year.

- Marsing has a new business license ordinance that will require purchase of an annual license beginning in 2010. People doing business from their homes and making less than \$10,000 would pay \$30. Resident businesses owned by people living in the city for at least three months would pay \$50. Others would pay \$100. Special businesses, those operating as transient merchants or itinerant vendors, would pay \$100 for a resident and \$200 for a nonresident license.

PAYETTE COUNTY

- The College of Western Idaho will sponsor GED and basic skills training classes in Payette. There will be three separate orientations for new students on Sept. 14, Oct. 5 and Nov. 2. The classes are free to anyone who would like to prepare for the GED examination. There will also be classes for people to improve their basic skills in reading, mathematics and languages. The classes are available to anyone at least 16 years old who is no longer in school.
- Woodgrain Millworks has begun recalling some of its laid-off workers as job orders improve. Woodgrain, headquartered in Fruitland, has plants in Fruitland and Nampa, where it manufactures mouldings, window, pine and atrium patio doors, porch posts and exterior door frames. They employ more than 500.
- The Pick & Pack grocery in Fruitland gutted by fire in June reopened in September. The Pick & Pack is somewhat of an icon for people familiar with the Gay Way Junction area. The building has been completely remodeled with a new façade, new coolers and a separate walk-in beer cooler. Pick & Pack will continue to offer the fried foods it has in the past but will no longer offer breakfast items.

VALLEY COUNTY

- The city of McCall will spend \$91,000 in federal stimulus money to build six bus stop shelters for passengers of the McCall Transit and Valley County Connections. The new shelters should heighten the visibility of the transit system. Bids will be let in September, and the shelters could be ready in November. Valley County Connections serves McCall, Donnelly and Cascade.
- The McCall City Council will review its three-year-old zoning rules that restrict franchise retailers and restaurants to 10 percent of the local business mix. The intent of the law was to protect the character of McCall, support locally-owned businesses and maintain one-of-a-kind businesses in town. The rules were asked to be reviewed as tenants for the Alpine Village were being sought. One developer felt the character of McCall could be protected by design review. Comments on the rule change are currently being accepted. Stay tuned for the next chapter.

WASHINGTON, PAYETTE AND MALHEUR (ORE.) COUNTIES

- Fry Foods in Weiser is adding more than 30 workers with skills in production, mechanics and sanitation. The new workers will be paid \$7.25 to \$15 an hour based on the job and skill level.
- Payette and Washington counties in Idaho and Malheur County in Oregon have combined their resources to form the Snake River Economic Development Alliance along with nine cities in the region to promote local economic development. The region is located in two different states but

shares the same labor force and economic challenges. The group hopes by pulling together the regional economy will benefit. The alliance is starting with a budget of \$60,000. More information is at www.snakeriveredu.org.

*Janell Hyer, Regional Economist Supervisor
(208) 332-3570 ext. 3220
janell.hyer@labor.idaho.gov*

SOUTH CENTRAL IDAHO

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

TWIN FALLS

- The Garden, well-known for its airy environment and palate-pleasing assortment of salads, wraps, home-made soups and delectable desserts was on the move this August. It changed its name to River Rock Grill and relocated to a pad near the mall that originally housed Elmer's, then Eduardo's Mexican Restaurant and most recently Aztlan Mexican Restaurant. The high-traffic location and ample parking was the drawing card. This leaves the East End wondering what will happen to the uniquely designed but now empty building.
- Black Rock Clothiers, a fashionable women's retail shop, will move closer to the retail hub of the Magic Valley, leaving behind a very loyal following in Buhl. This move to Lynwood Shopping Center occurred in mid-August, and owner Marta LeMoynes says she will continue to be an enthusiastic supporter of Buhl. But with consumer demand off, it became obvious that a larger market was needed to continue with the higher-end, distinctive style retail strategy.
- The first annual Magic Festival left downtown Twin Falls spell bound, after a weekend of illusion and fun. The concept of the festival spawns from the Magic Valley, named after the magical transformation when irrigation was brought to the desert by the system of reservoirs and canals to create an agricultural boom. Eight magicians from around Idaho, some with national reputations, participated in this new event that highlighted their tricks and illusion.
- Water curtailment was not expected this year in light of the wet spring that continued into June. However, Clear Springs Foods, a Buhl trout farm and processing operation, provided evidence of a greater water shortage than previously shown. The findings indicate the conversion to surface water from ground water did not occur. Interim Water Resources Director Gary Spackman said failure to comply would not be tolerated. Water curtailment has been delayed by the courts pending a determination of the validity of the move. The curtailment was expected to impact fewer than 9,000 acres and 300 wells.
- Summer construction on Twin Falls' major artery, Blue Lakes Boulevard, took its toll on retailers. Cain's Furniture, Furniture Now and Lizzy's have closed. New businesses on and around Blue Lakes Boulevard include restaurants and bars such as Anchor Bistro. The Paradise Café has fresh offerings, lighter menu options and an intimate setting in a new retail strip. The Bamboo House opened earlier in the summer with a buffet of Asian food. It fills the spot previously occupied by Dale's Dawgs.
- Mortgage companies are looking for new digs. Guild Mortgage has located in a new office complex near Lowe's. It is a new face in Twin Falls, a pri-

vately held company with a regional emphasis on the West. The company is based in San Diego with other Idaho branches in Boise and McCall. Met Life is waiting on its new office building on the corner of Locust and Falls Avenue. It is anticipated construction will be completed before the end of the year. A children's dentistry office will be a co-tenant in the building.

- Twin Falls continues to see expansion of its hotel business. The Fillmore Inn has opened as a bed and breakfast. Conference rooms are also available at this beautiful vintage home.
- Buhl saw the opening of Kora Car Audio and Accessories in the former Chocolate Factory building. Service and custom design are key to owner Marco Cortez, who relocated to Buhl from California seven years ago.
- Cargill will start supplying power to the Idaho Power Co. grid under a decision by the Idaho Public Utility Commission. The Dry Creek Dairy, owned by Bettancourt Dairies, is one of two in the region converting manure to methane gas, which is then converted into electricity. Idaho Power buys the electricity, and the dairy is left with liquid fertilizer for its crops and sludge that turns into peat moss for resale by Cargill. The deal is a major boost for an industry that has been plagued by issues surrounding its waste management. The Murtaugh dairy milks about 10,500 cows.
- Organic production is becoming popular enough to justify a project at the Kimberly Research Center. There will be 11 acres devoted to organic potatoes, beans and wheat. Organic farming in south central Idaho is stronger than might be expected.

County	# Organic Farms	# Acres
Blaine	16	10,960
Camas	30	42,947
Cassia	4	3,056
Gooding	7	958
Jerome	9	None listed
Lincoln	6	2,655
Minidoka	6	939
Twin Falls	15	5,488
Total	292	108,127

BLAINE COUNTY

- Sun Valley Co. says its "Buy in July" campaign was a success. More full-season ski passes were sold during July than all of last year. These skiers must also read the Farmer's Almanac, which predicts a cold and snowy winter. Passes sold in July cost \$1,499, a savings of \$550 from the previous season.
- The newly formed Sage School will open its doors to 20 students, grades six through 12. The tentative location is the old Forest Service campus in Hailey. The school's leadership includes a previous director of an alternative school and a teacher. The school is committed to experiential learning and a focus on basic studies with field trips, real life projects and hands-on studies. The school is recruiting experts to teach subjects like art, guitar building, avalanche search and rescue and CPR. Students will study owls and hawks through visits to the World Center for Birds of Prey and Idaho Bird Observatory and tour Idaho's resource-based industries such as mines and farms.

- Typical hobbies pursued in the Wood River Valley are skiing, golfing, fly fishing, hiking and biking. However, Wood River High School's Chess Club hosted a more cerebral event in the city park. Dan Mayers, senior champion of England in 1996, played chess against the current Idaho Chess Association state champion, Garrett Reynolds, and won while Norman Friedman of the Manhattan Chess Club and founder of The Right Move got a draw against Idaho's champion. According to its Web site, "the Right Move has established a record of providing the longest-running free city-wide chess tournament in New York City history. The Right Move has provided chess education programs in schools during the regular classroom hours and after school." The tournament lasted until midnight when it was determined that Garrett Reynolds won 26 games, was a draw on one game and lost two games.
- Hailey-based POWER Engineers has been rated among the industry's best, according to Engineering News-Record magazine's "Top 500 Design Firms Sourcebook 2009" published in July. Founded in 1976, the firm that began as a two-man Pocatello company has grown to more than 1,000 employees. It is a global consulting engineering firm specializing in energy, facilities, communications and environmental projects. It is headquartered in Hailey and has 21 offices throughout the U.S. and one international office.
- Hailey has experienced its share of business closures over the last year. The most recent was Wright Appliance and Cluttered Kitchen, which is closing due to retirement. "It's not the economy," Dick Wright said. "We are closing due to old age and sore joints. This is retirement." Main Street Bistro is another recent loss in Hailey as is Silver Creek Home Center and Valley Games. On the flip side, McClain's Pizza in Ketchum plans to relocate to Hailey in October. McClain's will operate at the "Old Drug Store" building on Main Street, owned by actress Demi Moore. Jane's Paper Place recently reopened across Main Street from Moore's property.
- The Crystal Creek Ranch Stream and Wetland Restoration Project involves the creation of dozens of small ponds — 20 doubling for irrigation and wetland habitat — and the restoration or enhancement of 12 miles of creek. The project area sits on 3,200 acres northwest of the U.S. Highway 20 and Idaho Highway 75 intersection. The public project benefiting both subdivision residents and recreation and education groups is financed with \$430,000 in federal stimulus funds matched by just over \$500,000 in private donations.
- Ketchum inaugurated a new park near Trail Creek named after a recently deceased benefactress, Lucy Loken. The park brings the country to the downtown core of Ketchum with a trail, new landscaping and public facilities on a half acre. The opening included a garden party and a ribbon cutting with featured guests including the immediate family of Lucy Loken from Wisconsin.

GOODING COUNTY

- Wind farms are monumental in Hagerman. The Fossil Gulch wind farm is almost as prominent as George Washington's forehead on Mount Rushmore. More wind farms are in the making, and the seed has been planted with the Idaho Public Utilities Commission for approval. The first request is for Cassia Gulch Wind Park, an 18.9-megawatt operation, and the next is the 16.8-megawatt Tuana Springs project. Both are about four miles west of Idaho Power's lower Malad substation. Tuana Springs is expected to be fully operational by June 30, 2010. The owner is Iowa-based John Deere Renewables.

CASSIA COUNTY

- Burley's shuttered Pacific Ethanol plant continues to sit idle while further losses are absorbed by the California-based company. Losses grew to \$24 million this second quarter compared to losses of \$8.3 million a year earlier.

Jan Roeser, Regional Economist
(208) 769-1558 ext. 3984
jan.roeser@labor.idaho.gov

SOUTHEASTERN IDAHO

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

COUNTY DEVELOPMENTS

BANNOCK COUNTY

- The city of Pocatello was granted foreign-trade sub-zone status for the polysilicon plant being constructed by Hoku on the western edge of the city. A foreign-trade zone allows business to import raw materials without paying an import tax, provided the finished product is sold outside of the United States. It is anticipated 80 percent of Hoku's solar silicon chips will be exported to China. The foreign-trade zone application took more than two years of processing before being approved as a sub-zone to Boundary County in northern Idaho. Pocatello city officials indicate a willingness to make applications for additional foreign-trade zones if local companies can demonstrate a need.
- Because taxable values went up more than anticipated, the city of Pocatello will reduce the levy rate by approximately 1.67 percent. The city's total valuation rose 5.93 percent.
- Retired landscape architect Sean Hart has started a \$1 million renovation of a building on Pocatello's southwest side. The renovated building will include an art gallery and studio, a discotheque, a restaurant, office space and shopping boutiques, which will include jewelry ranging from \$50 to \$5,000.
- Federal stimulus money will be used to expand Yellowstone Avenue along the Pine Ridge Mall and add another lane of traffic from the Chubbuck Interchange on Interstate 86 to the Pocatello Creek Interchange on Interstate 15. The \$8.1 million dollar project is expected to be completed by mid-2011.
- Portneuf Medical Center has acquired Rocky Mountain Surgery Center and will make it part of its outpatient department, which will relocate to the hospital's new facilities when they are completed in late 2011.

BEAR LAKE COUNTY

- A hydroelectric energy company, Symbiotics, continues planning a \$1.5 billion project in the Bear Lake area that would pump 10,000 acre-feet of water up 2,400 feet from a reservoir in North Eden Canyon to a higher reservoir. The water would then be released back to the original reservoir through a series of power-generating turbines. While the energy used to pump the water uphill is greater than the energy created when the water is released downhill it may be economically sound. The water would be pumped uphill during periods of low demand when electricity is cheaper and released back through the turbines when demand is high and the price is up. It has been 20 years since a pump-storage project has been

built in the United States, but there is now renewed interest in developing cleaner energy systems.

BINGHAM COUNTY

- Even in a recession people still seem to be busy, and John Trotter wants to take advantage of that with Trotter's Errand Service in Blackfoot. He will do grocery shopping or wait at a home for the repairman to show up. The cost varies by assignment, but first-time errands are a flat fee of \$10.
- A proposed development on the Fort Hall Reservation by non-Indians has focused attention on the need for a comprehensive land use plan for reservation property. Currently the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes have zoning guidelines in place, but reservation officials think a comprehensive plan would strengthen their land use ordinances. Bingham County agreed in January to refer all commission-related issues on use of the county's portion of the reservation to the tribal commission. Bannock County officials have indicated a willingness to sign a similar agreement.
- Homestead Family Restaurant is believed to be the first restaurant in southeastern Idaho to install a solar water heating system. Idaho Power Co. officials estimate the system will save up to 38,000 kilowatt-hours per year. The 20 "evacuated" tubes have been installed to absorb the thermal energy from the sun. Owner Bill Dishman expects the system to pay for itself in less than seven years and continue to function for another 18.
- Ground was broken in mid-August for the Idaho Science and Technology Charter School in Blackfoot, and construction will begin early this fall. More than a hundred students have registered for the school, and nine teachers have signed contracts to teach there.
- Robert LeBow is financing construction of a new BMX track in Blackfoot at the site of a former landfill behind the Eastern Idaho State Fairgrounds. Work is awaiting resolution by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality of contamination concerns. The track should be ready for races as early as May.
- Officials with Ridgeline Energy have been told to reapply for approval of their proposed 150 turbine wind farm in the Wolverine Canyon area. Bingham County District Judge Richard St. Clair had previously ruled that a number of mistakes were made in the original application process.

CARIBOU COUNTY

- Attention continues to focus on the requests from the J.R. Simplot and Monsanto Cos. to expand their separate phosphate mining operations. A federal judge has approved Simplot's request, but his decision has been appealed by the Greater Yellowstone Coalition and other environmental groups. Monsanto's request has been approved for public comment through the first of October. The entire draft of the environmental impact statement can be found on the BLM Web site at www.blm.gov/id/st/en/info/nepa/Pocatello/blackfoot_mine_deis.html.

FRANKLIN COUNTY

- Construction in Franklin County has been steady this summer, and County Building Inspector John Burg says all builders are busy. Unlike most recessions when construction involves mostly add-ons and sheds, building is running slightly ahead of year-ago levels, and residential construction is close to holding its own. Residential permits during the first half of this year in Preston and the county totaled 17 compared to 19 during the first six months of 2008, but total permits are up five to 58 from a year ago.

- The new Webb Funeral Home is one of the larger construction projects in Franklin County this summer. At 11,000 square feet, it will be nearly five times larger than the old building when it is completed by year's end.

ONEIDA COUNTY

- Hess Pumice has offered to buy the Malad Industrial Park if the city officials can find a site for a new one. The offer came because there is no room in the existing park for a planned new NAPA auto parts business.
- Oneida Hospital administrators and board members are considering building a new hospital and have asked the Malad City Council about building it on land owned by the city. Construction is still probably three to five years away, but with a very limited source of money officials believe early planning may allow more time for grant requests and better resource identification.

POWER COUNTY

- Ridgeline Energy officials appear interested in building 65 1.8-megawatt wind turbines on 22,000 privately-owned acres near Massacre Rocks in Power County. The project would use only 900 acres for roads to the wind towers. Public hearings are being held, and Ridgeline plans to submit application to Power County in September. If the application for a special use permit is approved and a buyer can be found for the power, the company would begin construction in 2010.

Scott Hobdey Regional Economist

(208) 236-6710, ext. 3713

scott.hobdey@labor.idaho.gov

EAST CENTRAL IDAHO

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

AREA DEVELOPMENTS

BONNEVILLE COUNTY

- Mountain View Hospital in Idaho Falls has completed a \$10.5 million expansion that doubled its size by expanding the operating room and adding 17 new patient rooms near the birthing center. Nearly 4,000 more square feet was remodeled. Previously, the hospital had to divert patients because of space limitations. The project kept a number of local workers employed during the tough winter since about 60 percent of the improvements were done with local labor.
- Cargill Specialty Canola Oils just expanded its seed production facility in Idaho Falls, moving from a leased building to a new one with 72,000 square feet. The canola seeds are grown in eastern Idaho, then weighed, tracked, sorted and packaged for delivery at the Idaho Falls plant. The seed is sent to growers who agree to sell their yield back to Cargill that turns it into cooking oil with the lowest level of saturated fat of any vegetable oil. McDonald's is one of the company's largest customers. An international company with over 150,000 employees in 68 countries, Cargill's Idaho Falls plant has a payroll of 25. The expansion will not increase employment but will allow the company to process more seed.
- Fatboys Grill, "Idaho Falls' biggest burger" joint moved from its downtown location to Northgate Mile six blocks southwest of the municipal golf course. The Denver family said the move gives them greater exposure on a

main street. The burger place offers the Fatboys Challenge – down a 5-pounder and a half pound of fries in less than 45 minutes and get the \$29.99 meal free.

- Reed's Dairy has gained national notoriety for its ice cream. Staffers for Savor Magazine called the dairy's ice cream "supernaturally sumptuous." Reed's now ships its fresh ice cream out to new customers weekly from its www.reedsicecream.com site.
- CRI Advantage in Idaho Falls was named Small Business of the Year for 2008 by the U.S. Department of Energy. The company has been the primary technological troubleshooter for the Idaho National Laboratory, handling its computers, cell phones and network issues. The INL acknowledged the company's innovative approach and commitment to its formidable and challenging workplace. The consulting firm was founded 21 years ago but only began working with INL a few years ago. The company employs 47 in customer service and technology proficiency.
- The Speedi Mart in Ammon has been renovated. The convenience store/gas station, which has been operating since 1915, now sports a new stucco exterior with river rocks, new windows and signage and new aisles and floor tiles. The store, even through several owners and almost 100 years, has always been the same size. Owner Lennis Tirrell said the economy convinced him to renovate because there was competition to get the work.

Tanya Albán, Regional Economist
(208) 557-2500, ext. 3587
tanya.alban@labor.idaho.gov

Census Facts

Hispanic Heritage Month 2009 Sept. 15—Oct. 15

In September 1968, Congress authorized President Lyndon B. Johnson to proclaim National Hispanic Heritage Week, which was observed during the week that included Sept. 15 and Sept. 16. The observance was expanded in 1988 to a month-long celebration (Sept. 15 – Oct. 15). The United States celebrates the culture and traditions of those who trace their roots to Spain, Mexico and the Spanish-speaking nations of Central America, South America and the Caribbean. Sept. 15 was chosen as the starting point for the celebration because it is the anniversary of independence of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on Sept. 16 and Sept. 18, respectively.

En septiembre del 1968, el Congreso le otorgó autorización al presidente Lyndon B. Johnson para proclamar la Semana Nacional de la Herencia Hispana, la cual se celebró durante la semana que incluía el 15 y el 16 de septiembre. La celebración se extendió a un mes en 1988 (del 15 de septiembre al 15 de octubre). Estados Unidos festeja la cultura y las tradiciones de las personas que tienen sus raíces en España, México y las naciones hispanohablantes de América Central, América del Sur y el Caribe. Se eligió el 15 de septiembre como la fecha de inicio porque ese día marca el aniversario de la independencia de cinco países latinoamericanos: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras y Nicaragua. Además de esto, México y Chile celebran su independencia los días 16 y 18 de septiembre respectivamente.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

United States
**Census
2010**

State of Idaho Data

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

Seasonally Adjusted Data	Aug 2009				Aug 2008			
	Civilian Labor Force	# Unemployed	% Unemployed	Total Employment	Civilian Labor Force	# Unemployed	% Unemployed	Total Employment
STATE OF IDAHO	751,273	66,291	8.8	684,982	756,755	39,159	5.2	717,596
COUNTIES								
ADA	191,421	17,185	9.0	174,236	196,887	9,595	4.9	187,292
ADAMS	2,218	352	15.9	1,866	2,024	193	9.5	1,831
BANNOCK	39,294	3,012	7.7	36,282	40,342	1,973	4.9	38,369
BEAR LAKE	3,440	218	6.3	3,222	3,363	115	3.4	3,248
BENEWAH	4,117	620	15.1	3,497	3,996	323	8.1	3,673
BINGHAM	21,636	1,724	8.0	19,912	21,277	1,185	5.6	20,091
BLAINE	14,020	1,138	8.1	12,882	14,512	521	3.6	13,991
BOISE	3,436	296	8.6	3,140	3,565	189	5.3	3,376
BONNER	21,459	2,248	10.5	19,210	21,149	1,185	5.6	19,964
BONNEVILLE	50,245	3,219	6.4	47,026	50,305	1,894	3.8	48,411
BOUNDARY	4,423	552	12.5	3,871	4,226	333	7.9	3,893
BUTTE	1,487	92	6.2	1,395	1,481	70	4.7	1,411
CAMAS	648	67	10.4	581	657	26	4.0	631
CANYON	82,597	9,746	11.8	72,851	83,947	5,637	6.7	78,310
CARIBOU	3,569	266	7.4	3,303	3,393	158	4.7	3,235
CASSIA	10,192	672	6.6	9,521	10,118	457	4.5	9,660
CLARK	571	38	6.7	532	590	29	4.9	561
CLEARWATER	3,458	501	14.5	2,957	3,298	318	9.6	2,980
CUSTER	2,791	165	5.9	2,626	2,799	123	4.4	2,676
ELMORE	11,107	930	8.4	10,177	11,135	627	5.6	10,509
FRANKLIN	5,535	268	4.8	5,267	5,628	194	3.5	5,434
FREMONT	5,522	517	9.4	5,005	5,256	268	5.1	4,988
GEM	7,046	834	11.8	6,212	7,198	520	7.2	6,678
GOODING	8,387	534	6.4	7,853	8,353	298	3.6	8,055
IDAHO	7,440	750	10.1	6,690	7,302	487	6.7	6,815
JEFFERSON	11,234	855	7.6	10,378	11,139	456	4.1	10,684
JEROME	10,252	742	7.2	9,510	10,190	404	4.0	9,786
KOOTENAI	71,842	7,170	10.0	64,672	71,535	4,184	5.8	67,351
LATAH	17,637	1,085	6.1	16,552	17,586	643	3.7	16,943
LEMHI	4,074	353	8.7	3,721	4,043	275	6.8	3,768
LEWIS	1,747	95	5.5	1,651	1,763	81	4.6	1,682
LINCOLN	2,646	342	12.9	2,305	2,486	147	5.9	2,340
MADISON	15,284	890	5.8	14,395	14,796	450	3.0	14,345
MINIDOKA	9,484	684	7.2	8,801	9,508	578	6.1	8,930
NEZ PERCE	19,476	1,181	6.1	18,296	19,064	862	4.5	18,201
ONEIDA	2,220	115	5.2	2,104	2,205	89	4.0	2,116
OWYHEE	4,174	168	4.0	4,006	4,435	129	2.9	4,306
PAYETTE	10,868	1,217	11.2	9,650	10,531	810	7.7	9,721
POWER	3,678	417	11.3	3,261	3,733	284	7.6	3,448
SHOSHONE	6,343	901	14.2	5,442	6,344	510	8.0	5,834
TETON	5,216	370	7.1	4,846	5,316	190	3.6	5,126
TWIN FALLS	39,172	2,606	6.7	36,567	39,286	1,655	4.2	37,631
VALLEY	4,887	673	13.8	4,214	5,106	420	8.2	4,686
WASHINGTON	4,981	484	9.7	4,497	4,886	273	5.6	4,614
ASOTIN WA	11,147	1,028	9.2	10,118	10,573	605	5.7	9,969

* In thousands

State of Idaho Data

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

LABOR MARKET AREAS	Aug 2009				Aug 2008			
	Civilian Labor Force	# Unem- ployed	% Unem- ployed	Total Employ- ment	Civilian Labor Force	# Unem- ployed	% Un- emplo- yed	Total Employ- ment
BOISE CITY-NAMPA MSA	288,675	28,229	9.8	260,446	296,033	16,071	5.4	279,963
BURLEY MicSA	19,676	1,355	6.9	18,321	19,625	1,035	5.3	18,590
COEUR D'ALENE MSA	71,842	7,170	10.0	64,672	71,535	4,184	5.8	67,351
GRANGEVILLE SLMA	9,187	846	9.2	8,341	9,065	569	6.3	8,497
HAILEY SLMA	14,668	1,205	8.2	13,462	15,169	547	3.6	14,622
IDAHO FALLS MSA	61,479	4,074	6.6	57,405	61,444	2,350	3.8	59,095
LEWISTON MSA	30,623	2,209	7.2	28,414	29,637	1,467	4.9	28,170
POCATELLO MSA	42,972	3,429	8.0	39,542	44,075	2,257	5.1	41,817
REXBURG MicSA	20,806	1,406	6.8	19,400	20,052	719	3.6	19,333
TWIN FALLS MicSA	49,425	3,348	6.8	46,077	49,476	2,059	4.2	47,417
CITIES								
BOISE	108,658	10,375	9.5	98,283	111,113	5,890	5.3	105,223
CALDWELL	18,152	2,346	12.9	15,806	18,348	1,426	7.8	16,922
COEUR D' ALENE	23,019	2,441	10.6	20,578	22,876	1,532	6.7	21,344
IDAHO FALLS	28,205	1,893	6.7	26,312	28,117	1,139	4.0	26,978
LEWISTON	16,446	1,024	6.2	15,422	16,066	785	4.9	15,281
MERIDIAN	32,581	3,219	9.9	29,362	33,186	1,751	5.3	31,435
NAMPA	36,846	4,550	12.3	32,296	37,117	2,541	6.8	34,576
POCATELLO	28,712	2,160	7.5	26,552	29,385	1,418	4.8	27,967
TWIN FALLS	21,828	1,661	7.6	20,167	21,752	1,081	5.0	20,671
United States*	154,577	14,928	9.7	139,649	154,823	9,550	6.2	145,477

* In thousands

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

State of Idaho Data — Nonfarm Jobs

% change from

BY PLACE OF WORK	Aug 2009*	Jul 2009	Aug 2008	Last Month	Last Year
Total Nonfarm Jobs**	610,600	611,000	659,100	-0.1%	-7.4%
Total Private	499,900	499,000	545,300	0.2%	-8.3%
Goods-Producing Industries	94,500	93,700	116,800	0.9%	-19.1%
<i>Mining & Logging</i>	3,400	3,300	4,800	3.0%	-29.2%
Logging	1,200	1,100	1,700	9.1%	-29.4%
Mining	2,200	2,200	3,100	0.0%	-29.0%
<i>Construction</i>	36,000	35,300	48,200	2.0%	-25.3%
Construction of Buildings	8,500	8,000	11,300	6.3%	-24.8%
Residential Building Construction	5,300	5,200	7,400	1.9%	-28.4%
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	5,400	5,200	6,800	3.8%	-20.6%
Specialty Trade Contractors	22,100	22,100	30,100	0.0%	-26.6%
Foundation, Structure and Bldg Exterior Contractors	5,500	5,400	8,000	1.9%	-31.3%
Building Equipment Contractors	8,600	8,800	10,700	-2.3%	-19.6%
Building Finishing Contractors	4,200	4,200	6,100	0.0%	-31.1%
Other Specialty Trade Contractors	3,800	3,700	5,300	2.7%	-28.3%
<i>Manufacturing</i>	55,100	55,100	63,800	0.0%	-13.6%
Nondurable Goods	23,900	23,800	25,000	0.4%	-4.4%
Food Manufacturing	15,500	15,400	16,100	0.6%	-3.7%
Fruit and Vegetable Preserving and Specialty Food Manufacturing	8,200	8,200	8,300	0.0%	-1.2%
Durable Goods	31,200	31,300	38,800	-0.3%	-19.6%
Woods Product Manufacturing	5,500	5,500	6,800	0.0%	-19.1%
Machinery Manufacturing	2,800	2,800	3,200	0.0%	-12.5%
Computer & Electronic Product Manufacturing	10,900	11,000	14,400	-0.9%	-24.3%
Computer & Peripheral Equipment Manufacturing	3,100	3,100	3,700	0.0%	-16.2%
Semiconductor & Other Elec. Component Manufacturing	7,500	7,600	10,200	-1.3%	-26.5%
Service-Providing	516,100	517,300	542,300	-0.2%	-4.8%
Private Service Providing	405,400	405,300	428,500	0.0%	-5.4%
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	123,900	124,000	133,000	-0.1%	-6.8%
Wholesale Trade	26,300	26,400	27,900	-0.4%	-5.7%
Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	11,200	11,200	12,800	0.0%	-12.5%
Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	11,900	11,900	12,100	0.0%	-1.7%
Retail Trade	77,000	77,000	83,500	0.0%	-7.8%
Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers	10,600	10,700	12,300	-0.9%	-13.8%
Building Material & Garden Equipment	7,700	7,700	8,900	0.0%	-13.5%
Food & Beverage Stores	12,800	12,800	13,500	0.0%	-5.2%
Grocery Stores	11,100	11,100	11,800	0.0%	-5.9%
General Merchandise Stores	16,600	16,600	17,100	0.0%	-2.9%
Department Stores	5,100	5,100	5,500	0.0%	-7.3%
Other General Merchandise Stores	11,500	11,500	11,600	0.0%	-0.9%
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	20,500	20,500	21,600	0.0%	-5.1%
Utilities	2,100	2,100	2,400	0.0%	-12.5%
Transportation & Warehousing	18,400	18,400	19,200	0.0%	-4.2%
Truck Transportation	8,600	8,600	9,300	0.0%	-7.5%
General Freight Transportation	6,100	6,100	6,400	0.0%	-4.7%
<i>Information</i>	10,600	10,600	12,400	0.0%	-14.5%
Telecommunications	3,700	3,700	5,000	0.0%	-26.0%

Continued on next page.

Continued from previous page.

State of Idaho Data — Nonfarm Payroll Jobs						% change from
BY PLACE OF WORK	Aug 2009*	Jul 2009	Aug 2008	Last Month	Last Year	
Total Nonfarm Jobs**	610,600	611,000	659,100	-0.1%	-7.4%	
<i>Financial Activities</i>	29,700	29,700	32,000	0.0%	-7.2%	
Finance & Insurance	22,200	22,200	23,300	0.0%	-4.7%	
Credit Intermediation & Related Activities	11,100	11,200	11,600	-0.9%	-4.3%	
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	9,800	9,800	9,800	0.0%	0.0%	
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	7,500	7,500	8,700	0.0%	-13.8%	
<i>Professional & Business Services</i>	81,400	80,200	83,800	1.5%	-2.9%	
Professional, Scientific & Technical Svcs.	33,100	33,000	33,600	0.3%	-1.5%	
Architectural, Engineering & Related Services	5,800	5,800	6,600	0.0%	-12.1%	
Scientific Research & Development	7,800	7,800	7,600	0.0%	2.6%	
Management of Companies & Enterprises	6,900	6,900	7,100	0.0%	-2.8%	
Administrative & Support & Waste Management	41,400	40,300	43,100	2.7%	-3.9%	
Administrative & Support Services	38,900	37,900	40,600	2.6%	-4.2%	
Employment Services	12,300	12,200	15,800	0.8%	-22.2%	
Business Support Services	10,900	11,000	10,200	-0.9%	6.9%	
Services to Buildings & Dwellings	8,800	8,900	9,900	-1.1%	-11.1%	
Educational & Health Services	78,600	79,000	77,400	-0.5%	1.6%	
Educational Services	8,000	8,300	7,300	-3.6%	9.6%	
Health Care & Social Assistance	70,600	70,800	70,100	-0.3%	0.7%	
Ambulatory Health Care Services	27,800	28,000	28,100	-0.7%	-1.1%	
Hospitals	19,000	18,900	17,300	0.5%	9.8%	
General Medical and Surgical Hospitals	16,500	16,600	15,400	-0.6%	7.1%	
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	12,400	12,400	12,600	0.0%	-1.6%	
Social Assistance	11,400	11,500	12,100	-0.9%	-5.8%	
Leisure & Hospitality	60,800	60,700	68,700	0.2%	-11.5%	
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	9,600	9,600	11,300	0.0%	-15.0%	
Amusement, Gambling & Recreation Industries	8,400	8,500	10,000	-1.2%	-16.0%	
Other Amusement & Recreation Industries	6,900	7,000	8,100	-1.4%	-14.8%	
Accommodation & Food Services	51,200	51,100	57,400	0.2%	-10.8%	
Accommodation	8,400	8,400	10,500	0.0%	-20.0%	
Food Services & Drinking Places	42,800	42,700	46,900	0.2%	-8.7%	
Full Service Restaurants	18,900	18,900	22,500	0.0%	-16.0%	
Limited Service Restaurants	20,100	20,300	20,300	-1.0%	-1.0%	
Other Services	20,400	20,900	21,200	-2.4%	-3.8%	
Repair & Maintenance	5,800	5,900	6,400	-1.7%	-9.4%	
Automotive Repair & Maintenance	4,400	4,400	4,900	0.0%	-10.2%	
<i>Government</i>	110,700	112,000	113,800	-1.2%	-2.7%	
Federal Government	14,100	14,300	14,200	-1.4%	-0.7%	
State Government	29,000	29,000	28,000	0.0%	3.6%	
State Government Educational Services	13,500	13,100	11,400	3.1%	18.4%	
Local Government	67,600	68,700	71,600	-1.6%	-5.6%	
Local Government Educational Services	32,800	33,700	34,000	-2.7%	-3.5%	

*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

	Aug 2009	Jul 2009	Aug 2008	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
IDAHO LABOR FORCE ⁽¹⁾					
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	751,300	754,500	756,800	-0.4%	-0.7%
Unemployment	66,300	66,700	39,200	-0.6%	69.1%
Percent of Labor Force Unemployed	8.8	8.8	5.2		
Total Employment	685,000	687,800	717,600	-0.4%	-4.5%
<i>Unadjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	756,200	764,200	760,800	-1.0%	-0.6%
Unemployment	63,600	63,500	38,200	0.2%	66.5%
Percent of Labor Force Unemployed	8.4	8.3	5.0		
Total Employment	692,600	700,700	722,600	-1.2%	-4.2%

U. S. UNEMPLOYMENT RATE⁽²⁾

9.7 9.4 6.2

AGRICULTURE

Operators	11,579	11,580	9,738	0.0%	18.9%
Unpaid Family	355	350	355	1.3%	0.0%
Hired Workers	38,711	38,680	38,772	0.1%	-0.2%

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Claims Activities

Initial Claims ⁽³⁾	12,521	12,410	9,016	0.9	38.9
Weeks Claimed ⁽⁴⁾	115,544	115,544	53,641	0.0	115.4

Benefit Payment Activities⁽⁵⁾

Weeks Compensated	89,944	101,288	43,575	-11.2	106.4
Total Benefit \$ Paid	22,645,908	25,834,333	10,898,025	-12.3	107.8
Average Weekly Benefit Amount	\$251.78	\$255.06	\$250.10	-1.3	0.7
Covered Employers	50,036	50,052	50,958	0.0	-1.8
Total Benefit \$ Paid During Last 12 Months ⁽⁴⁾	\$378,077,019	\$366,329,136	\$186,091,562	3.2	103.2

U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX⁽²⁾

	Jul 2009	Jun 2009	July 2008		
Urban Wage Earners & Clerical Workers (CPI-W)	210.526	210.972	216.304	-0.2%	-2.7%
All Urban Consumer (CPI-U)	215.351	215.693	219.964	-0.2%	-2.1%

(1) Preliminary estimate

(2) Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics — CPI Index is released the 14th of each month.

(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

	Aug 2009*	Jul 2009	Aug 2008	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	71,840	71,720	71,540	0.2	0.4
Unemployed	7,170	6,740	4,180	6.4	71.5
% of Labor Force Unemployed	10	9.4	5.8		
Total Employment	64,670	64,990	67,350	-0.5	-4.0
<i>Unadjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	72,530	73,190	72,400	-0.9	0.2
Unemployed	6,390	6,310	3,790	1.3	68.6
% of Labor Force Unemployed	8.8	8.6	5.2		
Total Employment	66,150	66,890	68,610	-1.1	-3.6
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
Total Nonfarm Jobs**	56,130	56,020	58,940	0.2%	-4.8%
Total Private	47,320	47,230	49,900	0.2%	-5.2%
<i>Goods-Producing Industries</i>	10,210	10,170	10,760	0.4%	-5.1%
Mining & Logging	320	310	440	3.2%	-27.3%
Construction	5,360	5,330	5,580	0.6%	-3.9%
Manufacturing	4,530	4,530	4,740	0.0%	-4.4%
Wood Products	710	710	820	0.0%	-13.4%
<i>Service-Providing Industries</i>	45,920	45,850	48,180	0.2%	-4.7%
Private Service Providing	37,110	37,060	39,140	0.1%	-5.2%
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	10,720	10,700	11,130	0.2%	-3.7%
Wholesale Trade	1,520	1,510	1,590	0.7%	-4.4%
Retail Trade	8,150	8,140	8,380	0.1%	-2.7%
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	1,050	1,050	1,160	0.0%	-9.5%
Information	900	910	920	-1.1%	-2.2%
Financial Activities	3,150	3,140	3,170	0.3%	-0.6%
Professional & Business Services	5,570	5,580	6,360	-0.2%	-12.4%
Educational & Health Services	6,260	6,280	6,020	-0.3%	4.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	9,100	9,020	9,980	0.9%	-8.8%
Other Services	1,410	1,430	1,560	-1.4%	-9.6%
Government	8,810	8,790	9,040	0.2%	-2.5%
Federal Government	630	630	610	0.0%	3.3%
State Government	730	720	900	1.4%	-18.9%
Local Government	7450	7440	7530	0.1%	-1.1%
Government Education	2720	2740	2700	-0.7%	0.7%
Government Administration	6090	6050	6340	0.7%	-3.9%

* 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.

	Aug 2009*	Jul 2009	Aug 2008	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	30,620	29,960	29,640	2.2	3.3
Unemployment	2,210	2,220	1,470	-0.5	50.3
% of Labor Force Unemployed	7.2	7.4	4.9		
Total Employment	28,410	27,740	28,170	2.4	0.9
<i>Unadjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	30,540	30,380	29,520	0.5	3.5
Unemployment	2,170	2,060	1,460	5.3	48.6
% of Labor Force Unemployed	7.1	6.8	4.9		
Total Employment	28,370	28,320	28,060	0.2	1.1
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
Total Nonfarm Jobs**	27,930	27,930	29,060	0.0%	-3.9%
Total Private	21,860	21,840	23,090	0.1%	-5.3%
<i>Goods-Producing Industries</i>					
Natural Resources & Mining	210	210	210	0.0%	0.0%
Construction	1,380	1,350	1,460	2.2%	-5.5%
Manufacturing	3,100	3,080	3,170	0.6%	-2.2%
Wood Products Mnfct	390	400	440	-2.5%	-11.4%
Paper Mnfct	1,020	1,040	1,110	-1.9%	-8.1%
<i>Service-Providing Industries</i>					
Private Service Providing	17,170	17,200	18,250	-0.2%	-5.9%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	5,730	5,730	5,530	0.0%	3.6%
Wholesale Trade	600	630	680	-4.8%	-11.8%
Retail Trade	4,110	4,090	3,700	0.5%	11.1%
Transportation & Warehousing	1,020	1,010	1,150	1.0%	-11.3%
Information	390	390	380	0.0%	2.6%
Financial Activities	1,810	1,810	2,030	0.0%	-10.8%
Professional & Business Services	1,440	1,460	1,500	-1.4%	-4.0%
Education & Health Services	4,790	4,800	4,950	-0.2%	-3.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	2,260	2,250	2,770	0.4%	-18.4%
Other Services	750	760	1,090	-1.3%	-31.2%
Government	6,070	6,090	5,970	-0.3%	1.7%
Federal Government	280	280	230	0.0%	21.7%
State Government	1640	1650	1490	-0.6%	10.1%
Local Government	4150	4160	4250	-0.2%	-2.4%
Government Education	1870	1910	1880	-2.1%	-0.5%
Government Administration	4200	4180	4090	0.5%	2.7%

*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.

Southwestern Idaho Data

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

	Aug 2009*	Jul 2009	Aug 2008	% Change	
				Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	288,680	288,550	296,030	0.0	-2.5
Unemployment	28,230	29,300	16,070	-3.7	75.7
% of Labor Force Unemployed	9.8	10.2	4.9		
Total Employment	260,450	259,250	279,960	0.5	-7.0
<i>Unadjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	289,420	292,930	295,970	-1.2	-2.2
Unemployment	28,240	28,400	16,350	-0.6	72.7
% of Labor Force Unemployed	9.8	9.7	5.5		
Total Employment	261,180	264,530	279,620	-1.3	-6.6
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
Total Nonfarm Jobs**	252,620	252,630	273,560	0.0%	-7.7%
Total Private	210,680	210,240	231,050	0.2%	-8.8%
GOODS-PRODUCING INDUSTRIES					
<i>Mining, Logging & Construction</i>	16,700	16,520	19,150	1.1%	-12.8%
Construction	14,060	14,020	18,750	0.3%	-25.0%
Construction of Buildings	3,100	3,120	3,570	-0.6%	-13.2%
Specialty Trade Contractors	11,500	11,460	12,200	0.3%	-5.7%
Foundation, Structure & Bldg Contractors	2,240	2,270	2,870	-1.3%	-22.0%
<i>Manufacturing</i>	23,890	23,870	28,350	0.1%	-15.7%
Non-Durable Goods	7,060	7,040	6,910	0.3%	2.2%
Food Manufacturing	5,010	5,020	4,840	-0.2%	3.5%
Durable Goods	16,830	16,830	21,440	0.0%	-21.5%
Wood Product Manufacturing	1,380	1,390	2,140	-0.7%	-35.5%
Fabricated Metal Products	1,390	1,380	1,500	0.7%	-7.3%
Machinery Manufacturing	990	1,000	1,180	-1.0%	-16.1%
Computer & Electronic Mfg.	9,590	9,670	12,610	-0.8%	-23.9%
Computer & Peripheral Mfg.	2,940	2,940	3,220	0.0%	-8.7%
Semiconductor & Other Mfg.	6,410	6,470	9,150	-0.9%	-29.9%
Transportation Equipment Mfg.	1,520	1,540	1,960	-1.3%	-22.4%
SERVICE-PROVIDING INDUSTRIES					
Private Service Providing	170,090	169,850	183,550	0.1%	-7.3%
<i>Trade, Transportation & Utilities</i>	50,390	50,450	53,700	-0.1%	-6.2%
Wholesale Trade	11,800	11,820	12,080	-0.2%	-2.3%
Merchant Wholesalers (Durable Goods)	6,580	6,580	6,720	0.0%	-2.1%
Retail Trade	30,500	30,650	33,190	-0.5%	-8.1%
Food & Beverage Stores	4,890	4,870	5,000	0.4%	-2.2%
Grocery Stores	3,780	3,760	3,800	0.5%	-0.5%
General Merchandise Stores	6,540	6,560	6,830	-0.3%	-4.2%
Other General Merch. Stores	4,500	4,500	4,650	0.0%	-3.2%
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	8,090	7,980	8,430	1.4%	-4.0%
<i>Information</i>	5,600	5,640	6,050	-0.7%	-7.4%
Telecommunications	1,540	1,530	2,320	0.7%	-33.6%
<i>Financial Activities</i>	13,520	13,640	14,380	-0.9%	-6.0%
Finance & Insurance	10,320	10,370	10,540	-0.5%	-2.1%
Credit Intermediation & Related Activities	4,770	4,770	4,990	0.0%	-4.4%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	3,200	3,270	3,840	-2.1%	-16.7%
<i>Professional & Business Services</i>	36,030	35,770	41,150	0.7%	-12.4%
Professional, Scientific & Technical Svcs.	12,260	12,220	12,510	0.3%	-2.0%

Continued on next page.

Southwestern Idaho Data *(continued)*

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

	Aug 2009*	Jul 2009	Aug 2008	% Change	
				Last Month	Last Year
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
Total Nonfarm Jobs**	252,620	252,630	273,560	0.0%	-7.7%
Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises	4,880	4,910	5,190	-0.6%	-6.0%
Administrative / Support & Waste Mgmt.	18,890	18,640	23,460	1.3%	-19.5%
Employment Services	7,060	6,760	8,140	4.4%	-13.3%
Business Support Services	6,450	6,500	6,470	-0.8%	-0.3%
Services to Bldg and Dwellings	4,850	4,910	4,970	-1.2%	-2.4%
Educational & Health Services	33,140	33,060	34,780	0.2%	-4.7%
Educational Services	2,210	2,190	2,310	0.9%	-4.3%
Health Care & Social Assistance	30,930	30,870	32,470	0.2%	-4.7%
Ambulatory Health Care Service	12,340	12,300	11,890	0.3%	3.8%
Hospitals	9,740	9,620	10,550	1.2%	-7.7%
General Medical and Surgical Hospitals	8,790	8,760	9,080	0.3%	-3.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	23,350	23,120	25,410	1.0%	-8.1%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	2,670	2,570	3,850	3.9%	-30.6%
Accommodation & Food Services	20,680	20,550	21,560	0.6%	-4.1%
Food Services & Drinking Places	18,510	18,420	19,330	0.5%	-4.2%
Full-Service Restaurants	8,480	8,430	9,560	0.6%	-11.3%
Limited-Service Eating Places	7,470	7,550	7,800	-1.1%	-4.2%
Other Services	8,060	8,170	8,080	-1.3%	-0.2%
Government	41,940	42,390	42,510	-1.1%	-1.3%
Federal Government	6,520	6,540	6,280	-0.3%	3.8%
State Government	13,670	13,670	13,720	0.0%	-0.4%
State Government Educational Services	4,410	4,410	3,940	0.0%	11.9%
Local Government	21,750	22,180	22,510	-1.9%	-3.4%
Local Government Educational Services	12,520	13480	13180	-7.1%	-5.0%

* 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 MSA Labor Force & Employment – Twin Falls and Jerome counties

	<u>% Change From</u>				
	Aug 2009*	Jul 2009	Aug 2008	Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	49,430	48,860	49,480	1.2	-0.1
Unemployment	3,350	3,600	2,060	-6.9	62.6
% of Labor Force Unemployed	6.8	7.4	4.9		
Total Employment	46,080	45,260	47,420	1.8	-2.8
<i>Unadjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	49,660	49,650	49,590	0.0	0.1
Unemployment	3,310	3,360	2,080	-1.5	59.1
% of Labor Force Unemployed	6.7	6.8	4.2		
Total Employment	46,350	46,290	47,510	0.1	-2.4
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
Total Nonfarm Jobs**	39,740	39,040	41,130	1.8%	-3.4%
Total Private	34,740	34,020	35,970	2.1%	-3.4%
<i>Goods-Producing Industries</i>					
Construction	2,000	1,990	2,410	0.5%	-17.0%
Manufacturing	4,740	4,480	5,090	5.8%	-6.9%
Food Manufacturing	3,020	2,760	3,030	9.4%	-0.3%
Other Manufacturing	1,720	1,710	2,070	0.6%	-16.9%
<i>Service-Providing Industries</i>					
Private Service Providing	27,970	27,520	28,400	1.6%	-1.5%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	9,620	9,510	10,100	1.2%	-4.8%
Wholesale Trade	1,950	1,950	1,970	0.0%	-1.0%
Retail Trade	5,510	5,480	5,800	0.5%	-5.0%
Transportation & Warehousing	2,160	2,080	2,330	3.8%	-7.3%
Information	680	680	680	0.0%	0.0%
Financial Activities	1,800	1,790	1,760	0.6%	2.3%
Professional & Business Services	5,070	4,830	5,300	5.0%	-4.3%
Educational & Health Services	5,850	5,840	5,280	0.2%	10.8%
Leisure & Hospitality	3,380	3310	3650	2.1%	-7.4%
Other Services	1,570	1560	1630	0.6%	-3.7%
Government	5,000	5020	5160	-0.4%	-3.1%
Government Education	2,660	2660	2670	0.0%	-0.4%
Government Administration	2,340	2360	2490	-0.8%	-6.0%

*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

	Aug 2009*	Jul 2009	% Change From		
			Aug 2008	Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	42,970	43,050	44,080	-0.2	-2.5
Unemployment	3,430	3,360	2,260	2.1	51.8
% of Labor Force Unemployed	8.0	7.8	4.9		
	39,540	39,690	41,820	-0.4	-5.5
<i>Unadjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	42,630	43,360	43,640	-1.7	-2.3
Unemployment	3,290	3,170	2,200	3.8	49.5
% of Labor Force Unemployed	7.7	7.3	5.0		
Total Employment	39,340	40,190	41,440	-2.1	-5.1
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
Total Nonfarm Jobs**	36,250	36,290	38,230	-0.1%	-5.2%
Total Private	27,380	27,430	29,250	-0.2%	-6.4%
<i>Goods-Producing Industries</i>					
Natural Resources & Mining	1,700	1,740	2,150	-2.3%	-20.9%
Manufacturing	3,650	3,650	3,720	0.0%	-1.9%
Fabricated Metal Product Mfg	260	260	240	0.0%	8.3%
<i>Service-Providing Industries</i>					
Private Service Providing	22,030	22,040	23,380	0.0%	-5.8%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	6,780	6,790	7,480	-0.1%	-9.4%
Wholesale Trade	1,390	1,400	1,310	-0.7%	6.1%
Retail Trade	4,190	4,190	4,700	0.0%	-10.9%
Transportation & Warehousing	1,200	1,200	1,470	0.0%	-18.4%
Information	550	550	590	0.0%	-6.8%
Financial Activities	2,180	2,180	2,140	0.0%	1.9%
Professional & Business Services	4,100	4,120	4,510	-0.5%	-9.1%
Educational & Health Services	3,700	3,690	3,640	0.3%	1.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	3,810	3,800	3,880	0.3%	-1.8%
Other Services	910	910	1,140	0.0%	-20.2%
Government	8,870	8,860	8,980	0.1%	-1.2%
Federal Government	620	620	630	0.0%	-1.6%
State Government	3,450	3,450	3,670	0.0%	-6.0%
Local Government	4800	4790	4680	0.2%	2.6%
Government Education	4070	4090	4100	-0.5%	-0.7%
Government Administration	4800	4770	4880	0.6%	-1.6%

*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

	Aug 2009*	Jul 2009	Aug 2008	<u>% Change From</u>	
				Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	61,470	62,210	61,440	-1.2	0.0
Unemployment	4,070	4,420	2,350	-7.9	73.2
% of Labor Force Unemployed	6.6	7.1	4.9		
Total Employment	57,400	57,790	59,090	-0.7	-2.9
<i>Unadjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	62,380	63,240	62,230	-1.4	0.2
Unemployment	3,960	3,880	2,330	2.1	70.0
% of Labor Force Unemployed	6.3	6.1	3.7		
Total Employment	58,420	59,360	59,900	-1.6	-2.5
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
Total Nonfarm Jobs**	50,710	50,920	52,940	-0.4%	-4.2%
Total Private	44,130	44,320	46,450	-0.4%	-5.0%
<i>Goods-Producing Industries</i>					
Construction	3,730	3,670	4,710	1.6%	-20.8%
Manufacturing	3,440	3,470	3,310	-0.9%	3.9%
Food Manufacturing	840	880	900	-4.5%	-6.7%
Fabricated Metal Product Manfct	250	250	290	0.0%	-13.8%
<i>Service-Providing Industries</i>					
Private Service Providing	36,120	36,300	37,530	-0.5%	-3.8%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	12,320	12,360	13,700	-0.3%	-10.1%
Wholesale Trade	3,340	3,380	3,630	-1.2%	-8.0%
Retail Trade	7,570	7,560	7,730	0.1%	-2.1%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	1,410	1,420	2,340	-0.7%	-39.7%
Transportation	1,540	1,550	1,560	-0.6%	-1.3%
Information	1,280	1,290	1,500	-0.8%	-14.7%
Financial Activities	1,990	1,990	2,150	0.0%	-7.4%
Professional & Business Services	4,980	5,020	5,260	-0.8%	-5.3%
Educational & Health Services	7,390	7,430	7,520	-0.5%	-1.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	5,520	5,520	5,260	0.0%	4.9%
Other Services	2,640	2,690	2,140	-1.9%	23.4%
Government	6,580	6,600	6,490	-0.3%	1.4%
Federal Government	970	970	930	0.0%	4.3%
State Government	920	940	860	-2.1%	7.0%
Local Government	4,690	4,690	4,700	0.0%	-0.2%
Government Education	2,920	2,930	2,720	-0.3%	7.4%
Government Administration	3,660	3,670	3,770	-0.3%	-2.9%

*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.

IDAHO EMPLOYMENT is published online monthly by the Idaho Department of Labor. All information is in the public domain and may be duplicated without permission; however, the Idaho Department of Labor should be cited as the source.

The source for all data tables and graphs is the Idaho Department of Labor, Communications & Research, except where noted.

IDAHO EMPLOYMENT is produced by the Idaho Department of Labor which is funded at least in part by federal grants from the U.S. Department of Labor. Costs associated with this online publication are available by contacting the Idaho Department of Labor. Questions and comments can be directed to Public Affairs by phoning (208) 332-3570, ext. 3220, or by e-mail to janell.hyer@labor.idaho.gov or to the Regional Economists noted in each area news section.

Editor: Bob Fick (bob.fick@labor.idaho.gov)

Layout/Design: Jean Cullen (jean.cullen@labor.idaho.gov)

