



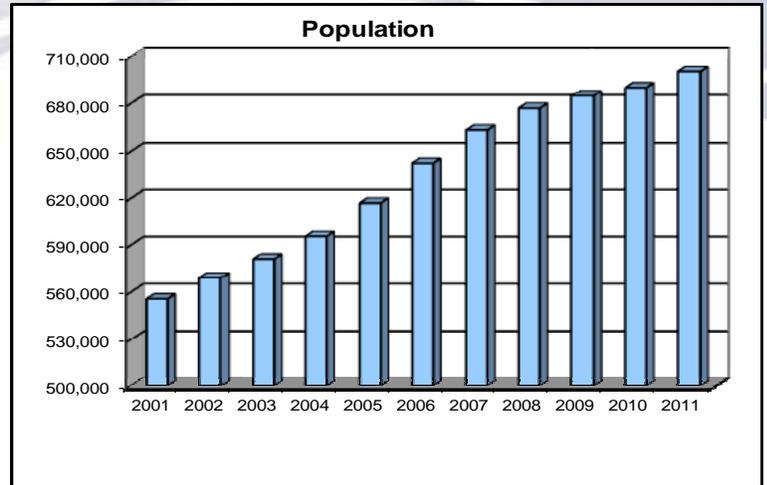
Southwestern Idaho

August 2012

Work Force Trends

Population

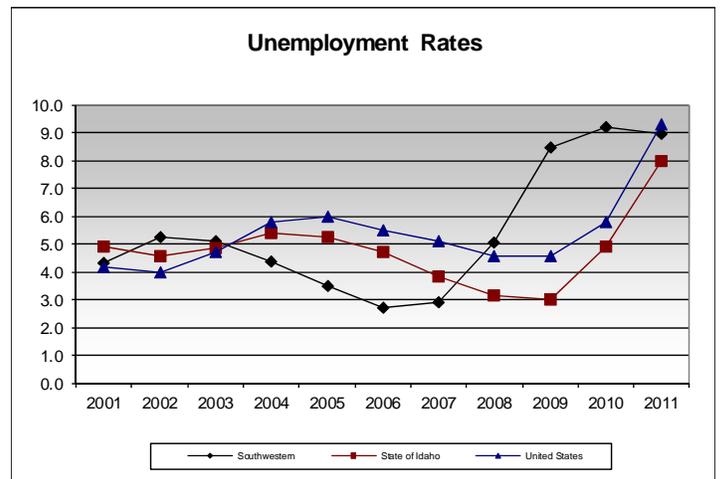
Southwestern Idaho is the largest of six regions in both square miles and population. Its 10 counties run from Adams and Valley in the north, Owyhee on the south and Elmore with Mountain Home Air Force Base on the east. Owyhee County is the state's second largest county in land area. Transfers on and off the air base constantly change the demography of Elmore County, which also draws military retirees making Mountain Home their last assignment. Ada and Canyon counties claim 37 percent of the state's population at 593,000. Ada is the larger with just under 401,000 residents, over twice the size of Canyon County. The population slowed as the number of people relocating from all over the country dropped significantly. The loss of migration was due largely to poor economic conditions and the lack of job opportunities in the region.



Labor Force & Employment

Southwestern Idaho's labor force grew rapidly in the mid-2000s. The region's unemployment rate hovered at or below 4 percent until late 2008 when the recession hit. Due to a overly robust construction industry, this region was hit hard by the collapse of the housing bubble, and it rippled into manufacturing and the services. By 2009 the number unemployed had more than tripled from the 2006 low point. The jobless rate increased as employment levels dropped. 2011, though, has shown minor gains. The labor force and employment have both risen while total unemployment has dropped. While marginal, it was still enough to decrease the unemployment rate 0.2 percentage points to 9 percent.

2011 covered employment showed gains in the region. Over 1,800 jobs were added to local payrolls. The majority came in education and health care, which added almost 14,000 jobs since 2001. Leisure and hospitality had the next highest increases at 830. An increase in manufacturing of over 700 was welcome news for the area. Boasting the



highest average wage in the area, manufacturing increases can have many positive effects on the local economy. Unfortunately though, the additional 700 jobs barely put a dent in the over 12,500 lost since 2001.

Construction continues to lag behind in the region, losing over 300 in 2011. But the government sector took the largest hit, cutting over 1,100 jobs from its payrolls.

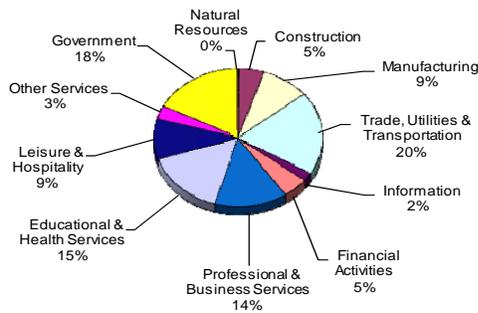
Labor Force	July 11	July 12
Civilian Labor Force	334,899	338,769
Total Employment	303,620	313,774
Unemployed	31,279	24,995
% of Labor Force Unemployed	9.3	7.4
State of Idaho % Unemployed	8.9	7.5
U.S. % Unemployed	9.1	8.3

Labor Force	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Civilian Labor Force	282,433	283,256	286,200	288,326	300,256	311,941	317,596	319,429	316,366	319,976	323,600
Unemployment	12,173	14,851	14,693	12,611	10,460	8,491	9,186	16,194	26,794	29,448	29,100
% of Labor Force Unemployed	4.3	5.2	5.1	4.4	3.5	2.7	2.9	5.1	8.5	9.2	9.0
Employment	270,260	268,405	271,507	275,715	289,796	303,450	308,410	303,235	289,572	290,529	294,500

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Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2011



Per Capita Income & Employment

Southwestern Idaho had per capita of \$32,993 in 2010, 3.4 percent above the state per capita income but 17.4 percent below the national figure. Wages are relatively high in Ada and Canyon counties, which account for a large majority of population and employment in the region. The high wages in these two counties translate into high wages for the region as a whole.

Trade, utilities and transportation continue to make up the largest portion of the covered employment for the region followed by government. But education and health care continue to grow rapidly to meet the demands of the increasing population.

Major Private Employers

Albertsons	J R Simplot Co
Amalgamated Sugar Co	Kroger - Fred Meyer
Blue Cross of Idaho	Marathon Cheese Corp
Bogus Basin	Micron Technology Inc
Brimdage Mountain	Qwest Corp
Citicorp Credit Services	Shore Lodge
Darmondy - McDonalds	St Alphonus Reg Medical Ctr
DirecTV	St Lukes Reg Medical Ctr
Fry Foods	T Moblie
Hewlett Packard Co	Wal-Mart
Idaho Power Co	Woodgrain Millwork

Occupational Wages*

Entry Level Wage

Medical Assistants	\$11.97
Waiters and Waitresses	\$7.83
Structural Metal Fabricators and Fitters	\$13.70
Customer Service Representatives	\$9.83
Electricians	\$15.29
Construction Laborers	\$10.46
Team Assemblers	\$9.02
Registered Nurse	\$23.23
Home Health Aides	\$8.21
Truck Drivers, Heavy	\$13.09
Exec Secretaries & Admin Assistants	\$13.02
Welders	\$12.26
Retail Salespersons	\$8.14

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

Covered Employment & Average Annual Wages Per Job for 2001, 2010 & 2011	2001		2010		2011	
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
Total Covered Wages	256,007	\$30,542	270,602	\$37,537	272,447	\$38,203
Agriculture	5,811	\$18,676	6,208	\$25,415	6,127	\$27,360
Mining	205	\$34,332	187	\$61,927	211	\$58,947
Construction	17,957	\$32,630	13,616	\$40,978	13,283	\$41,055
Manufacturing	37,376	\$42,972	24,138	\$59,443	24,852	\$59,116
Trade, Utilities & Transportation	48,871	\$26,876	52,148	\$34,317	52,592	\$35,287
Information	4,262	\$39,193	4,691	\$46,852	4,665	\$47,783
Financial Activities	32,948	\$34,918	38,474	\$39,632	38,315	\$40,991
Professional and Business Services	11,624	\$36,515	13,045	\$44,840	13,173	\$46,027
Educational and Health Services	26,584	\$29,830	39,067	\$38,593	40,574	\$39,418
Leisure and Hospitality	22,566	\$10,689	24,727	\$14,086	25,558	\$14,301
Other Services	6,700	\$20,956	7,444	\$24,417	7,314	\$24,915
Government	41,102	\$31,171	46,858	\$39,237	45,784	\$39,557

Per Capita Income	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Southwestern Idaho	\$28,132	\$28,519	\$28,886	\$29,248	\$31,391	\$32,390	\$34,997	\$35,264	\$34,835	\$33,506
State of Idaho	\$25,665	\$26,042	\$26,452	\$28,412	\$29,544	\$31,493	\$32,607	\$33,110	\$30,997	\$31,897
United States	\$31,157	\$31,481	\$32,295	\$33,909	\$35,452	\$37,725	\$39,506	\$40,947	\$38,846	\$39,937

Information provided by Bureau of Economic Analysis