



Bingham County

November 2009

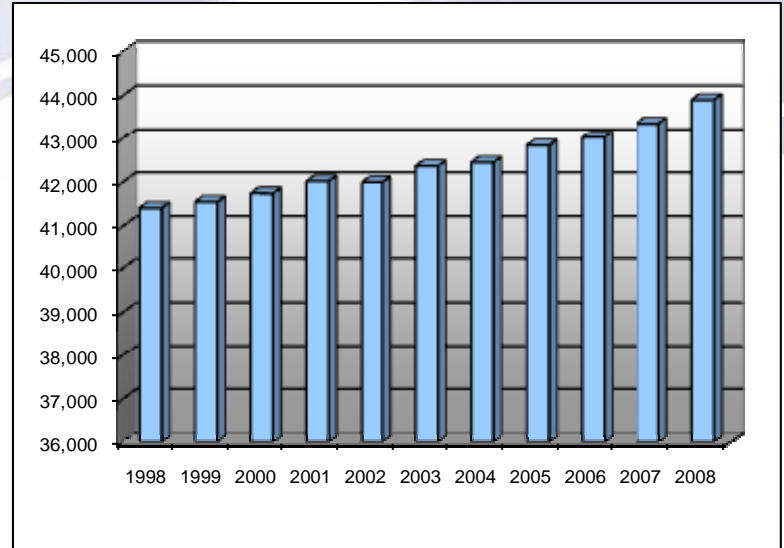
Work Force Trends

Population

Bingham County's population increased steadily, rising 6 percent over the last decade from 41,413 in 1998 to 43,903 in 2008. Blackfoot is the county seat and largest city. The county is a major farm service, potato processing and shipping center.

Flat and fertile farmland surrounded by mountains and crossed by the Snake River that provides water for fishing, boating and irrigation offer a picturesque setting and a lifestyle few people want to leave.

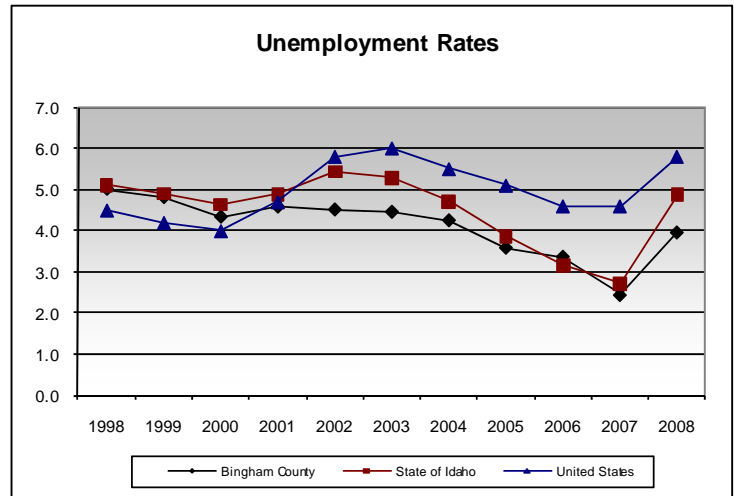
Most of the population increase during the decade was natural – births exceeding deaths. But recently immigration of workers from other countries and other states contributed significantly.



Labor Force & Employment

Bingham County's economy is heavily dependent on agriculture but has a diverse employer base that maintains a diverse work force. High technology metal fabricator Premier Technology and First American Title both have their headquarters in Bingham County. Idaho State Hospital South and the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes' gambling operation are other large nonfarm employers. The county's location between two major trade centers – Pocatello to the south and Idaho Falls to the north – provides additional work force and ample employment opportunities.

Compared to a decade earlier, Bingham County's nonfarm labor force decreased by 300 while the number of unemployed dropped about 250 on an annual basis



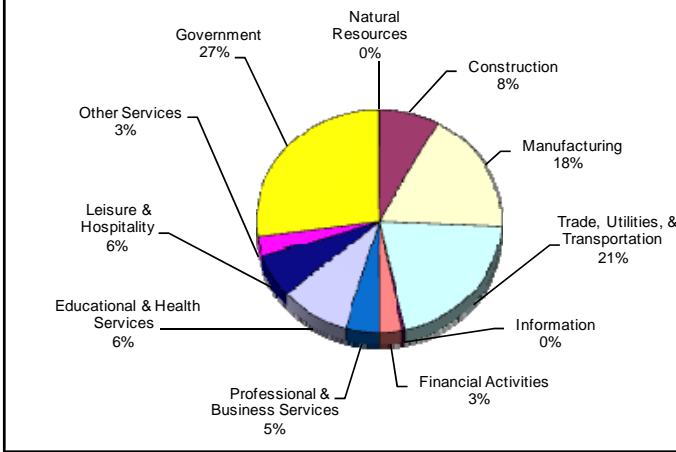
between 1998 and 2008. Because more people found jobs, the unemployment rate fell steadily from 5 percent in 1998 to 2.4 percent in 2007. The rate jumped significantly in 2008 to 3.9 percent.

The proximity to the Idaho National Laboratory and the Fort Hall Indian Reservation provides a wide variety of service-sector jobs.

Labor Force	Oct 2008	Oct 2009
Civilian Labor Force	22,375	22,543
Total Employment	21,710	21,581
Unemployed	665	962
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.0	4.3
State of Idaho % Unemployed	5.6	8.9
U.S. % Unemployed	6.6	10.2

Labor Force	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Civilian Labor Force	21,739	21,944	19,849	19,972	20,249	20,188	20,534	20,865	20,924	21,297	21,439
Unemployment	1,081	1,053	859	913	912	897	871	747	704	519	846
% of Labor Force Unemployed	5.0	4.8	4.3	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.2	3.6	3.4	2.4	3.9
Employment	20,658	20,891	18,990	19,060	19,338	19,291	19,663	20,119	20,220	20,778	20,593

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2008



Major Employers

Basic American Foods
 Idaho Supreme Potatoes
 J.R. Simplot Co.
 Nonpareil, Corp.
 Premier Technology
 Spudnik Equipment Co.
 Sho-Ban Gaming
 State Hospital South
 Wada Farms
 Wal-Mart

Occupational Wages*

Starting Wages

Auto mechanic/service technician	\$10.24
Cashier	\$6.55
Cook	\$6.76
Farm Worker	\$7.25
Fast Food Worker	\$7.00
Food Process Worker	\$7.13
Grader and Sorter, Agriculture	\$7.50
Construction Laborer	\$8.10
Nurse, Licensed Practical	\$12.04
Nurse, Registered	\$19.63
Office Clerk, General	\$7.35
Retail Sales Clerk	\$7.10
Psychiatric Technician	\$10.16
Waiter/Waitress	\$6.55

Covered Employment & Wages

Bingham County's large agricultural base goes hand in hand with trade and manufacturing to provide nearly half of all jobs in the county.

Government accounts for nearly 30 percent of the jobs because of Idaho's State Hospital South, the University of Idaho Agricultural Experimental Station and several local school districts.

Wages in the county are lower than in most of the United States and fall about the middle of all Idaho counties.

* 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 1998, 2007 & 2008	1998		2007		2008	
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
Total Covered Wages	13,178	\$21,399	14,744	\$28,309	15,070	\$29,426
Agriculture	1,310	\$16,293	1,377	\$26,343	1,367	\$28,019
Mining	*	*	*	*	*	*
Construction	584	\$23,409	1,161	\$29,532	1,092	\$29,909
Manufacturing	2,344	\$27,987	2,148	\$36,144	2,452	\$38,066
Trade, Utilities, & Transportation	3,005	\$18,260	2,827	\$25,167	2,866	\$25,779
Information	93	\$19,391	51	\$21,796	57	\$21,213
Financial Activities	282	\$23,726	360	\$36,060	379	\$36,584
Professional and Business Services	364	\$26,006	591	\$32,749	623	\$35,996
Educational and Health Services	508	\$20,139	1,002	\$27,651	1,285	\$32,554
Leisure and Hospitality	855	\$8,738	908	\$7,915	891	\$8,571
Other Services	253	\$19,147	334	\$24,029	344	\$26,050
Government	3,168	\$24,365	3,930	\$30,062	3,701	\$29,237

Per Capita Income	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Bingham County	\$17,444	\$18,233	\$19,298	\$19,552	\$20,423	\$19,994	\$21,243	\$21,718	\$23,404	\$25,193
State of Idaho	\$21,789	\$22,786	\$24,077	\$25,024	\$25,234	\$25,543	\$27,389	\$28,681	\$30,374	\$31,804
United States	\$26,883	\$27,939	\$29,843	\$30,574	\$30,838	\$31,530	\$33,157	\$34,690	\$36,794	\$38,615

Information provided by Bureau of Economic Analysis



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labor.idaho.gov

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