



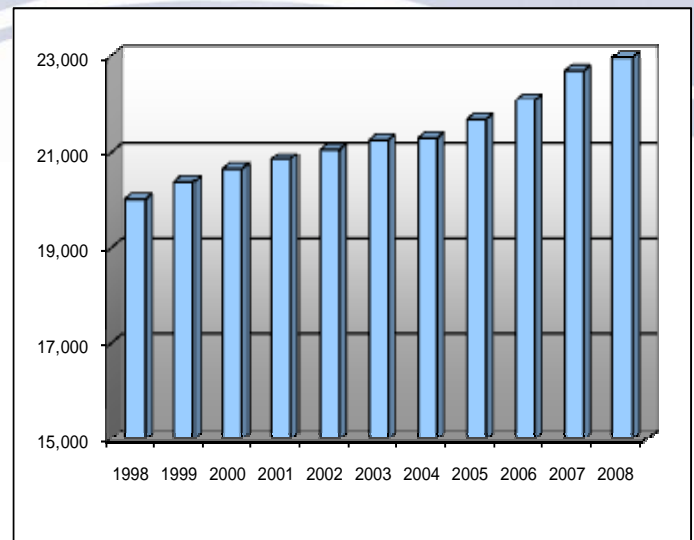
# Payette County

November 2009

## Work Force Trends

### Population

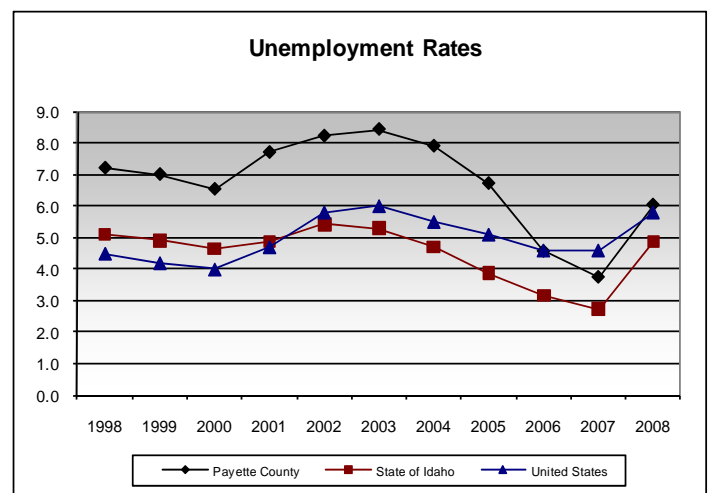
Payette County is Idaho's smallest county in area, but ranks 14<sup>th</sup> in population, which has been consistently rising since 1998. At 22,966 in 2008, the population is up 14.7 percent during the decade. As the region's population centers of Ada and Canyon counties continue to grow to the west, Payette County is seeing an increasing share of retirees and commuters seeking its lower cost of living and the small town, agricultural lifestyle. Fruitland, Payette and New Plymouth are the county's largest communities.



### Labor Force & Employment

The labor force in Payette County rose just 3 percent from 1998 to 2008, and the sluggishness was even greater in 2008. That growth rate is not keeping pace with population growth that is including a large number of retirees and families with small children. Payette County's unemployment rate increased significantly in 2008 to 6 percent after spending 2007 at 3.7 percent, below what some economists see as full employment.

The number of nonfarm payroll jobs fell by 2.8 percent during 2008. Losses were primarily in the construction and manufacturing, following the region's trend. The construction slide was a double shot at Payette County because it also hit the county's wood products manufacturers. Similar to Gem County, trade, transportation and utilities made a modest gain during 2008, indicating consumer spending had not dropped enough during the

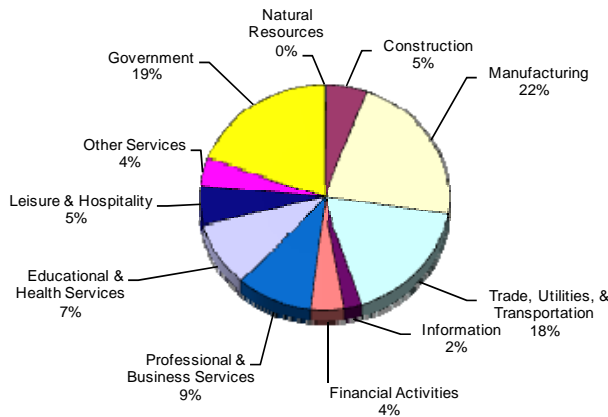


latter half of 2008 to warrant job cuts as it did in many other counties. But just as in Gem County, that may not last through 2009.

| Labor Force                 | Oct 2008 | Oct 2009 |
|-----------------------------|----------|----------|
| Civilian Labor Force        | 10,939   | 11,350   |
| Total Employment            | 10,288   | 10,506   |
| Unemployed                  | 651      | 844      |
| % of Labor Force Unemployed | 5.9      | 7.4      |
| 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        | 10,202 | 10,182 | 10,012 | 9,918 | 10,041 | 10,431 | 10,286 | 10,310 | 10,286 | 10,517 | 10,510 |
| Unemployment                | 736    | 716    | 654    | 763   | 825    | 879    | 812    | 692    | 469    | 394    | 634    |
| % of Labor Force Unemployed | 7.2    | 7.0    | 6.5    | 7.7   | 8.2    | 8.4    | 7.9    | 6.7    | 4.6    | 3.7    | 6.0    |
| Employment                  | 9,466  | 9,466  | 9,358  | 9,155 | 9,216  | 9,552  | 9,473  | 9,618  | 9,817  | 10,124 | 9,876  |

## Nonfarm Payroll Jobs 2008



## Per Capita Income and Covered Employment

Payette County's per capita income has remained relatively stable since 2002 when it ranked 28th in the state. In 2007 per capita income of \$26,757 ranked 27th. The last big jump in the rankings came in 2002 when the county went from 36th to 28th.

Manufacturing provides 20.4 percent of covered employment in Payette County, primarily in food processing plants like Seneca Foods and Dickinson Frozen Foods and in wood products plants like Woodgrain. Agriculture has been growing over the last decade and notably over the last year, increasing by nearly 10 percent from 2007.

## Major Employers

|                              |
|------------------------------|
| Idaho Power Company          |
| Partners Produce Inc         |
| Dickinson Frozen Foods       |
| Fruitland School District    |
| New Plymouth School District |
| Payette County               |
| Payette School District      |
| Seneca Foods                 |
| American Staffing Inc        |
| Woodgrain Millwork           |

## Occupational Wages\*

## Starting Wage

|                          |         |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Cook                     | \$8.42  |
| Bookkeeper               | \$8.58  |
| Welder                   | \$12.17 |
| Registered Nurse         | \$17.55 |
| Truck Driver             | \$11.49 |
| Farm Equipment Operators | \$7.85  |
| General Farm Laborers    | \$7.10  |
| Licensed Practical Nurse | \$12.21 |
| Administrative Assistant | \$8.58  |
| Construction Laborer     | \$9.31  |
| Electricians             | \$13.81 |

\* Additional occupational wage data can be found on the Idaho Department of Labor Web site at [lmi.idaho.gov](http://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 |
| <b>Total Covered Wages</b>  | 5,463              | \$20,922      | 6,485              | \$27,874      | 6,301              | \$29,367      |
| Agriculture   | 297                | \$13,991      | 408                | \$20,134      | 448                | \$20,653      |
| Mining  | *                  | *             | *                  | *             | *                  | *             |
| Construction  | 223                | \$24,129      | 381                | \$28,657      | 315                | \$27,661      |
| Manufacturing   | 1,486              | \$24,932      | 1,395              | \$33,253      | 1,285              | \$35,039      |
| Trade, Utilities & Transportation                                       | 1,056              | \$20,136      | 1,045              | \$29,069      | 1,054              | \$28,303      |
| Information   | 71                 | \$30,410      | 107                | \$35,587      | 130                | \$90,505      |
| Financial Activities  | 123                | \$25,866      | 272                | \$32,390      | 250                | \$33,485      |
| Professional and Business Services                                      | 401                | \$25,485      | 631                | \$31,400      | 579                | \$31,718      |
| Educational and Health Services   | 330                | \$17,481      | 550                | \$26,135      | 571                | \$28,375      |
| Leisure and Hospitality   | 277                | \$6,367       | 349                | \$8,126       | 320                | \$8,676       |
| Other Services  | 156                | \$13,077      | 231                | \$16,720      | 227                | \$17,416      |
| Government  | 1,029              | \$20,427      | 1,097              | \$28,314      | 1,113              | \$27,467      |

| Per Capita Income     | 1998     | 1999     | 2000     | 2001     | 2002     | 2003     | 2004     | 2005     | 2006     | 2007     |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| <b>Payette County</b> | \$17,209 | \$18,180 | \$18,738 | \$19,763 | \$20,481 | \$21,588 | \$23,582 | \$24,577 | \$25,486 | \$26,757 |
| <b>State of Idaho</b> | \$21,789 | \$22,786 | \$24,077 | \$25,024 | \$25,234 | \$25,543 | \$27,389 | \$28,681 | \$30,374 | \$31,804 |
| <b>United States</b>  | \$26,883 | \$27,939 | \$29,843 | \$30,574 | \$30,838 | \$31,530 | \$33,157 | \$34,690 | \$36,794 | \$38,615 |

Information provided by U.S. Census Bureau

This county is served by the office listed below:  
 Idaho Department of Labor  
 501 N. 16th St., Suite 107  
 Payette, ID 83661-0179 Ph: (208) 642-9361

[labor.idaho.gov](http://labor.idaho.gov)

