



# Ada County

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DEPT. OF LABOR

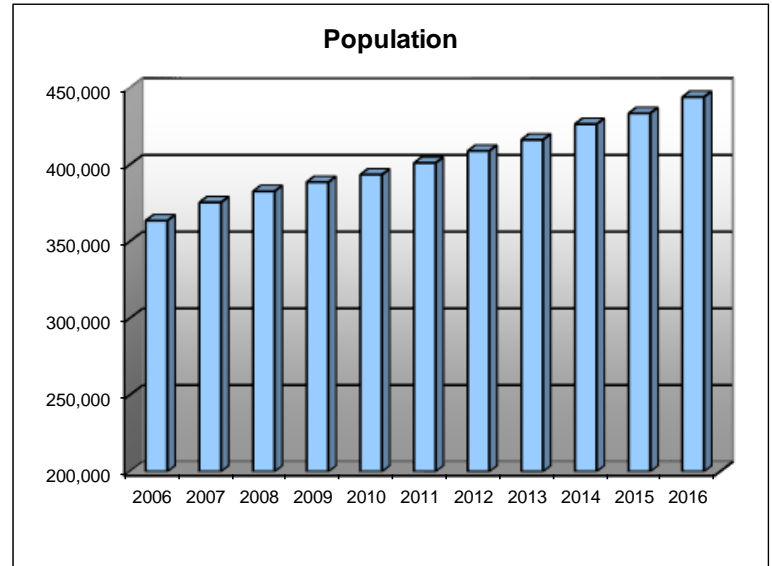
August 2017

## Workforce Trends

### Population

Ada County is Idaho's most populous with over 444,000 residents. It is a regional center of government, industry and education. It is more than twice the size of neighboring Canyon County, the state's second most populous. Ada County ranks 31st among the 44 counties in area. It has grown rapidly, adding 80,500 residents since 2005. Population increased rapidly in the years leading up to the recession. People from other states flocked to the county for its outdoor lifestyle and comparatively low real estate prices. While annual population growth has slowed since then, the county continues to grow more rapidly than the nation, growing 2.4 percent between 2015 and 2016.

Boise is the largest city in Ada County and the state with a population of 223,154 in 2016. Meridian the second largest city in the county and state had a population of 95,623 in 2016. Eagle is the fastest growing city with a 5 percent increase in 2016 bringing its population to 24,785.

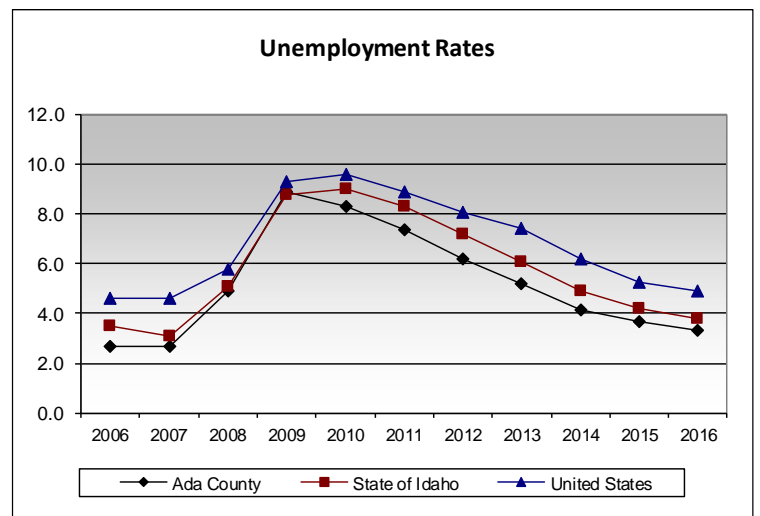


### Labor Force & Employment

The Ada County labor force grew significantly between 2006 and 2016, increasing by over 31,000. The labor force increased 3.4 percent between 2015 and 2016, the largest increase in more than 10 years. Ada County has more jobs than its labor force can support, requiring commuters from neighboring counties to fill them. During 2016, the unemployment rate continued to decline, dropping 0.4 points from 2015, to 3.3 percent. The county consistently posts rates below the statewide average.

The county's annual average covered employment increased 4.4 percent, 9,629 jobs, in 2016. Five sectors made up 80 percent of the growth. The largest growth was in professional and business services which added 2,508 jobs. This was followed by 1,503 jobs leisure and hospitality, 1,463 in construction, 1,199 in education and health care and 1,081 in trade, utilities and transportation.

Over the decade, the county has increased the number of



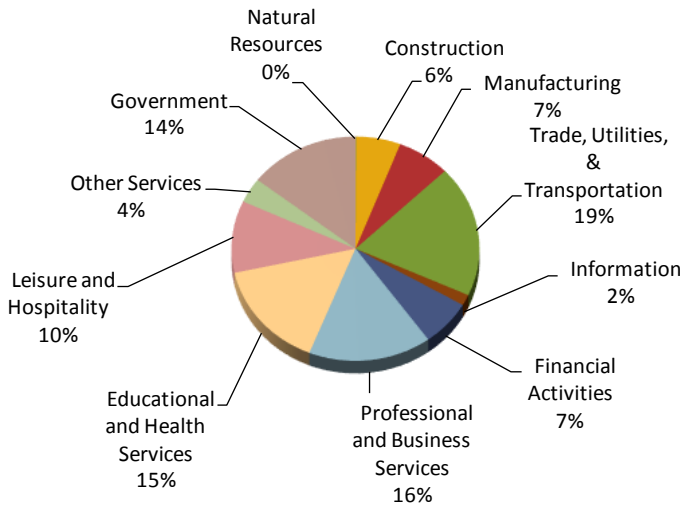
jobs by 18,471. That is impressive considering this time frame included the worst recession in recent memory. Construction and manufacturing lost over 9,000 jobs between 2006 and 2016. These sectors made up 18 percent of the covered employment in 2006 but comprise only 13 percent now.

Despite the recession, education and health care posted a gain of over 11,400 jobs since 2006. This sector was followed by leisure and hospitality with over 5,200 new jobs. Trade, utilities and transportation added almost 4,600 jobs over the decade, while Government saw a growth of over 2,800 jobs.

| Labor Force                 | July 16 | July 17 |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|
| Civilian Labor Force        | 225,779 | 230,783 |
| Total Employment            | 218,272 | 224,721 |
| Unemployed                  | 7,508   | 6,062   |
| % of Labor Force Unemployed | 3.3     | 2.6     |
| State of Idaho % Unemployed | 3.8     | 3.0     |
| U.S. % Unemployed           | 4.9     | 4.3     |

| Labor Force                 | 2006    | 2007    | 2008    | 2009    | 2010    | 2011    | 2012    | 2013    | 2014    | 2015    | 2016    |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Civilian Labor Force        | 193,828 | 196,740 | 196,434 | 196,383 | 196,922 | 200,186 | 204,202 | 206,667 | 212,026 | 217,705 | 225,083 |
| Unemployment                | 5,211   | 5,240   | 9,586   | 17,491  | 16,360  | 14,705  | 12,639  | 10,791  | 8,839   | 7,991   | 7,487   |
| % of Labor Force Unemployed | 2.7     | 2.7     | 4.9     | 8.9     | 8.3     | 7.3     | 6.2     | 5.2     | 4.2     | 3.7     | 3.3     |
| Employment                  | 188,617 | 191,500 | 186,848 | 178,892 | 180,562 | 185,482 | 191,562 | 195,877 | 203,188 | 209,714 | 217,596 |

## Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2016



## Per Capita Income & Wages

The annual average covered wage in Ada County increased 1.8 percent to \$46,056 in 2016., or \$790. The growth over the past decade was 17.3 percent with an increase of nearly \$7,000. Information and financial services reported a wage increase of more than \$3,500 on the past year. The most significant loss was in mining, down more than \$6,000. Leisure and hospitality continues to report the lowest wages at \$16,904 but it is up 4 percent from a year ago and 23 percent from 2006.

Ada County ranked 3rd among the 44 counties in per capita income with \$46,053 in 2015, an increase of \$1,733 from 2014. That was still 19 percent higher than the state's per capita income but 4 percent, or \$2,059, less than national per capita income.

## Major Private Employers

|                                       |
|---------------------------------------|
| St. Luke's Regional Medical Center    |
| St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center |
| Blue Cross of Idaho Health Services   |
| DirectTV                              |
| Hewlett Packard Co                    |
| Idaho Power Co.                       |
| Micron Technology, Inc.               |
| Wells Fargo                           |
| Wal-Mart                              |
| Albertsons Inc                        |
| WDSGlobal                             |

| Occupational Wages*                      | Entry Wage | Median Wage |
|--|------------|-------------|
| Medical Assistants                       | \$12.38    | \$14.71     |
| Waiters and Waitresses                   | \$8.26     | \$8.92      |
| Structural Metal Fabricators and Fitters | \$12.67    | \$16.15     |
| Customer Service Representatives         | \$11.28    | \$14.22     |
| Electricians                             | \$14.80    | \$22.58     |
| Construction Laborers                    | \$9.88     | \$13.88     |
| Team Assemblers                          | \$9.40     | \$11.65     |
| Registered Nurse                         | \$24.73    | \$30.69     |
| Exec Secretaries & Admin Assistants      | \$14.21    | \$20.24     |
| Welders                                  | \$12.26    | \$16.25     |
| Retail Salespersons                      | \$8.36     | \$10.94     |

\* Additional occupational wage data can be found on the Idaho Department of Labor website at [lmi.idaho.gov](http://lmi.idaho.gov).

| Covered Employment & Average Annual Wages Per Job for 2006, 2015 & 2016 | 2006               |               | 2015               |               | 2016               |               |
|---|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|
|   | Average Employment | Average Wages | Average Employment | Average Wages | Average Employment | Average Wages |
| <b>Total Covered Wages</b>  | 207,804            | \$39,265      | 216,646            | \$45,266      | 226,275            | \$46,056      |
| <b>Agriculture</b>  | 764                | \$27,292      | 727                | \$33,950      | 744                | \$34,818      |
| <b>Mining</b>   | 135                | \$41,900      | 140                | \$79,287      | 100                | \$72,892      |
| <b>Construction</b>   | 16,657             | \$40,950      | 11,770             | \$45,185      | 13,233             | \$47,134      |
| <b>Manufacturing</b>  | 21,767             | \$62,755      | 16,018             | \$84,163      | 16,138             | \$82,596      |
| <b>Trade, Utilities &amp; Transportation</b>                            | 39,393             | \$35,528      | 42,907             | \$42,332      | 43,988             | \$43,291      |
| <b>Information</b>  | 3,881              | \$47,476      | 3,611              | \$49,863      | 3,627              | \$53,814      |
| <b>Financial Activities</b>   | 12,007             | \$46,177      | 12,131             | \$57,183      | 12,986             | \$60,819      |
| <b>Professional and Business Services</b>                               | 35,091             | \$42,188      | 34,469             | \$45,790      | 36,976             | \$45,772      |
| <b>Educational and Health Services</b>                                  | 24,388             | \$38,061      | 34,628             | \$47,071      | 35,826             | \$49,012      |
| <b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>  | 18,874             | \$13,732      | 22,637             | \$16,253      | 24,140             | \$16,904      |
| <b>Other Services</b>   | 5,396              | \$24,334      | 5,837              | \$27,282      | 6,222              | \$28,071      |
| <b>Government</b>   | 29,449             | \$38,959      | 31,773             | \$46,127      | 32,294             | \$46,794      |

| Per Capita Income     | 2006     | 2007     | 2008     | 2009     | 2010     | 2011     | 2012     | 2013     | 2014     | 2015     |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| <b>Ada County</b>     | \$40,567 | \$40,649 | \$40,085 | \$38,148 | \$37,998 | \$39,278 | \$40,749 | \$42,247 | \$44,320 | \$46,053 |
| <b>State of Idaho</b> | \$31,357 | \$32,580 | \$33,031 | \$31,436 | \$31,727 | \$33,296 | \$34,691 | \$35,703 | \$37,153 | \$38,392 |
| <b>United States</b>  | \$38,144 | \$39,821 | \$41,082 | \$39,376 | \$40,277 | \$42,453 | \$44,267 | \$44,462 | \$46,414 | \$48,112 |

Information provided by Bureau Economic Analysis



This county is served by the offices located at the addresses below:

Idaho Department of Labor  
219 W. Main St.  
Boise, ID 83735-0030 Ph: (208) 332-3575

or Idaho Department of Labor  
1090 E. Watertower Lane, Suite 100  
Meridian, ID 83642-6282 Ph: (208) 364-7785

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

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