

# Boise Metro Area

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DEPT. OF LABOR

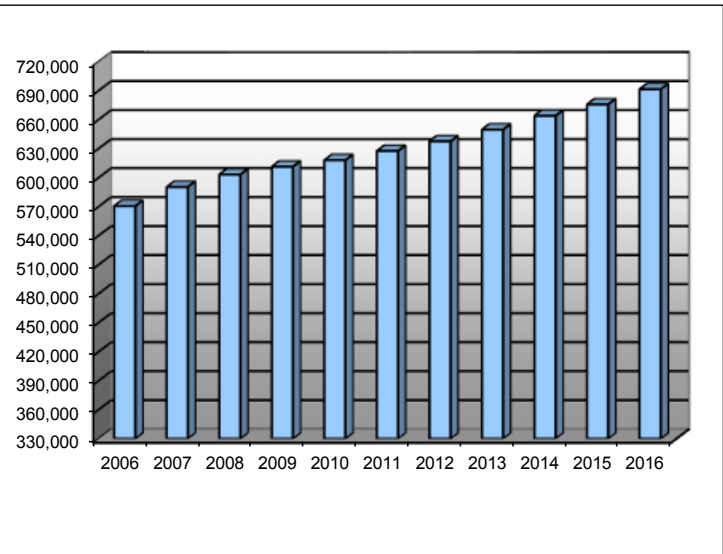
August 2017

## Workforce Trends

### Population

The Boise metropolitan area encompasses Ada, Boise, Canyon, Gem and Owyhee counties. The area covers 11,738 square miles, 14.2 percent of the state, and varies from high desert to beautiful forests on rugged mountains to deep river canyons. Forty-one percent of Idahoans live in the metro area. It also holds the state's capital, Boise.

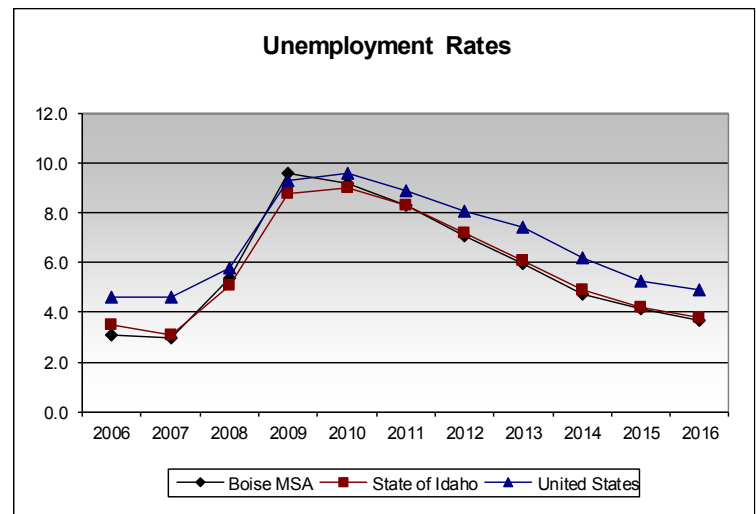
While population growth slowed to 1.1 percent between 2009 and 2010, the growth rate has increased yearly and now the area ranks as one of 20 fastest growing metro areas nationally. Population growth continued to increase between 2015 and 2016, with a gain of 2.3 percent. This improved growth rate is still considerably below the 2006 rate of 4.3 percent, the highest rate since the early 1990s. Since 2006, the metro area has grown by almost 121,000 or 21 percent. The state's two largest counties—Ada County and Canyon County—contribute 95 percent of the metro area's 691,423 people.



### Labor Force & Employment

The Boise metropolitan area's labor force grew by over 10,000 from 2005 to 2006 before slowing considerably in 2007. The labor force began to regain strength in 2010 and is now 42,957—14.7 percent—above 2006 levels. The unemployment rate also improved to 3.7 percent in 2016, down 0.5 points from the year before. The 2016 rate is 5.9 percentage points below the record 9.6 percent in 2009.

The area continues to experience a strong recovery and added 12,447 covered jobs in 2016. Construction, which was devastated during the recession, recorded its first year over year gains in 2012 with an increase of almost 600 jobs. This growth has continued through 2016 with the industry adding almost 1,900 more jobs. Manufacturing, another sector that has had a rough decade, continues its year over year growth with an addition of 694 jobs in 2016.



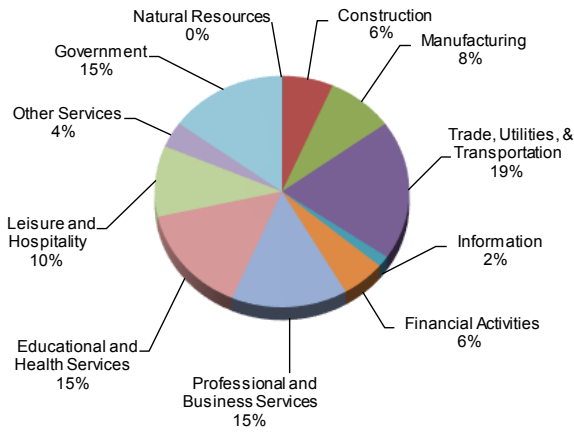
Only two industries experienced a decrease in covered jobs in 2016, agriculture and mining. The total job loss was only 46.

The winner for the most jobs added over the decade though goes to private education and health services, with 13,411 new jobs since 2006. From 2015 to 2016, professional and business services saw the most growth, adding more than 2,800 jobs. Over the decade, 24,700 jobs have been added.

Labor Force	July 16	July 17
Civilian Labor Force	335,928	335,928
Total Employment	323,565	332,875
Unemployed	12,363	9,898
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.7	2.9
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	292,161	295,165	295,413	296,317	297,428	301,302	306,791	310,019	316,666	324,748	335,118
Unemployment	8,983	8,804	15,892	28,400	27,313	25,085	21,768	18,463	14,957	13,433	12,375
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.1	3.0	5.4	9.6	9.2	8.3	7.1	6.0	4.7	4.1	3.7
Employment	283,178	286,361	279,521	267,917	270,116	276,217	285,023	291,556	301,709	311,315	322,743

## Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2016



## Per Capita Income, Nonfarm Jobs & Wages

The Boise metro area's per capita income continued its climb in 2015 to \$39,956, growing 3.4 percent over the previous year. This put the metro area 4 percent over the state but only 83 percent of national per capita income.

The region's nonfarm employment landscape is led by trade, utilities and transportation making up 19 percent of the areas employment. Three industries each account for 15 percent of the nonfarm jobs: professional and business services; education and health services; and government. This is not surprising given Boise is the largest city and capital.

In 2016, information and financial activities industries recorded the largest gains in earnings, \$3,051 and \$3,122 respectively. Two industries, mining and manufacturing registered a decrease in wages, down \$7,213 and \$1,351 respectively. Over the year wages increased by \$814 to \$43,282. Over the decade a 17.5 percent increase occurred or an additional \$6,457.

## Major Private Employers

Albertsons
Amalgamated Sugar
Blue Cross of Idaho Health Services
DirecTV
Fred Meyer
Hewlett Packard
Idaho Power Co.
J R Simplot
Micron Technology, Inc.
Century Link
St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center
St. Lukes Health Systems
Wal-Mart
WDS Global

## Boise MSA Occupational Wages\*

Occupation	Entry Wage	Median Wage
Medical Assistants	\$12.38	\$14.71
Writers and Waitresses	\$8.26	\$8.92
Structural Metal Fabricators & 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>	270,949	\$36,824	283,206	\$42,468	295,653	\$43,282
<b>Agriculture</b>	4,741	\$25,175	5,611	\$30,668	5,605	\$32,148
<b>Mining</b>	241	\$44,291	195	\$69,844	154	\$62,630
<b>Construction</b>	23,988	\$37,327	16,751	\$42,348	18,644	\$44,246
<b>Manufacturing</b>	31,495	\$54,014	24,873	\$69,361	25,567	\$68,010
<b>Trade, Utilities &amp; Transportation</b>	51,458	\$34,132	56,514	\$40,628	57,911	\$41,519
<b>Information</b>	4,583	\$45,500	4,401	\$47,896	4,487	\$50,947
<b>Financial Activities</b>	14,112	\$44,300	13,911	\$55,492	14,831	\$58,614
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	39,854	\$44,300	39,066	\$44,318	41,927	\$44,282
<b>Educational and Health Services</b>	31,345	\$35,966	43,382	\$43,758	44,756	\$45,741
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	23,317	\$13,170	28,221	\$15,666	30,256	\$16,303
<b>Other Services</b>	6,792	\$24,056	7,603	\$27,862	7,997	\$28,720
<b>Government</b>	39,023	\$37,009	42,679	\$43,222	43,518	\$43,977

Per Capita Income	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
<b>Boise MSA</b>	\$34,702	\$35,181	\$34,828	\$33,179	\$33,274	\$34,491	\$35,883	\$36,965	\$38,631	\$39,956
<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 area is served by the Idaho Department of Labor offices listed below:

219 W. Main St.  
Boise, ID 83735 Ph: (208) 332-3575

205 E. Watertower Lane  
Meridian, ID 83642-6282 Ph: (208) 364-7785

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

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