



# Clark County

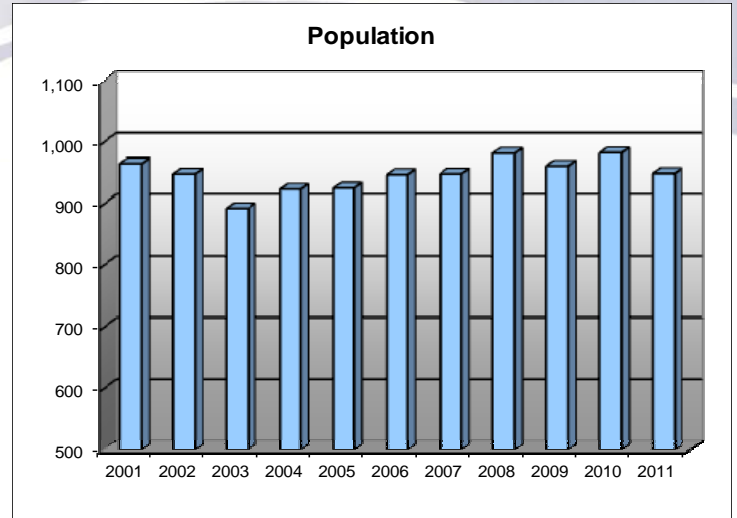
April 2012

## Work Force Trends

### Population

Clark County has the smallest population in the state at just 949 in 2011. Over the last decade the population has fluctuated. In 2003 it dropped slightly below 900 after peaking at over 1,000 in 2000 before the last recession. Clark County has just one person for every two square miles, severely limiting its labor force but also providing plenty of open space. Population may drop again with the loss of a North American Foods processing plant, which was previously one of the largest employers in the area.

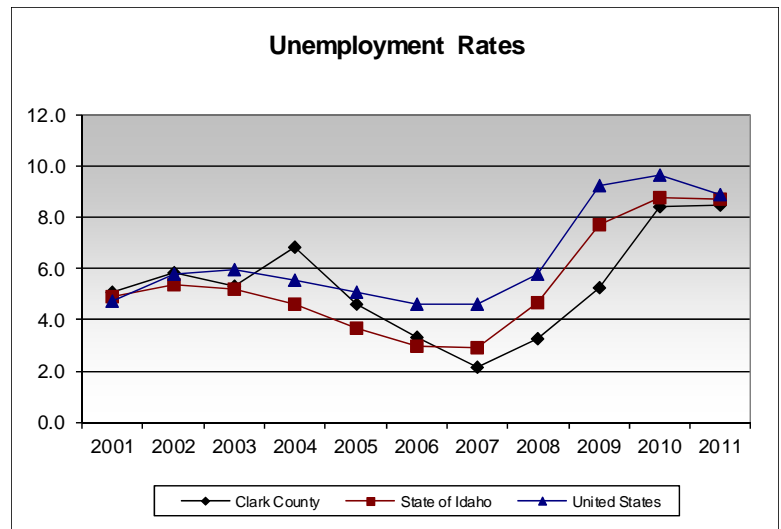
Clark County is highly dependent on agriculture, food manufacturing and government for its employment.



### Labor Force & Employment

With a small labor force and population, unemployment rates can fluctuate significantly. The 2011 unemployment rate at 8.5 percent remained below state and national levels. Unemployment in the agriculturally dependent county spiked from 2001 to 2005 because of water shortages. The county experienced a steady decline in its labor force from 1998 to 2002 before it began slowly rebounding. The population is aging as younger people are drawn away by urban education and employment.

Farming is the largest industry in the county. Over 66 percent of the land is owned by the federal government and another 7 percent by the state. The majority is considered rangeland, and sheep are a major commodity. A U.S. Department of Agriculture operates a research faculty which studies and develops new breeds of sheep. Among the other industrial sectors, manufacturing



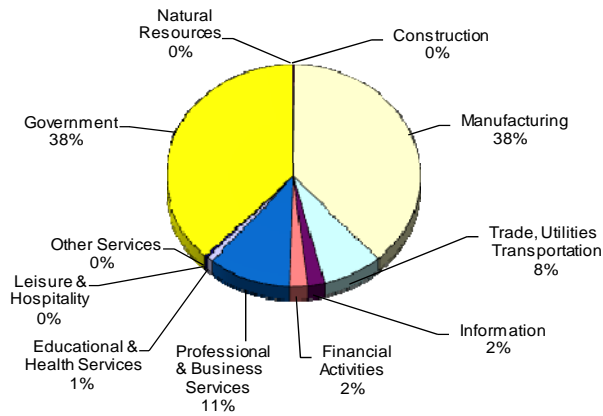
provides the most jobs at over 40 percent. Government, primarily the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is the second largest sector, employing 38 percent of workers.

The county is located on the Montana border and includes part of the Continental Divide. The city of Dubois is virtually the last place of refuge when winter storms intermittently cause closure of Interstate 15.

Labor Force	Mar 11	Mar 12
Civilian Labor Force	554	530
Total Employment	516	502
Unemployed	39	28
% of Labor Force Unemployed	7.0	5.3
State of Idaho % Unemployed	8.7	7.9
U.S. % Unemployed	8.9	8.2

Labor Force	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Civilian Labor Force	559	503	536	538	539	521	553	600	547	560	560
Unemployment	29	29	29	37	25	17	12	20	29	47	47
% of Labor Force Unemployed	5.1	5.8	5.3	6.8	4.6	3.3	2.2	3.3	5.3	8.5	8.5
Employment	530	474	507	501	514	503	541	580	518	513	512

## Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2010



## Covered Employment & Wages

Covered employment increased by almost 4 percent, or 19, between 2000 and 2010, primarily in manufacturing. Average wages increased \$16,960, or 83 percent, during the decade. Between 2009 and 2010 wages among all sectors rose. It should be noted that these wages are counted where the job is located. Many of the jobs within the county are held by residents of other counties.

Covered employment includes jobs subject to state and federal unemployment insurance laws. These laws apply to approximately 92 percent of Idaho's employees.

## Major Employers

Clark County
Clark County School District #161
Blaine Larsen Farms, Inc.
Ikes 66 LLC
Aquent LLC
Advantech Solutions III Inc.
U.S. Department of Agriculture

## Eastern ID Occupational Wages\*

Median Wage

Occupation	Median Wage
Cashiers	\$8.12
Farm Equipment Mechanics	\$17.27
Industrial Truck/Tractor Operators	\$14.23
Agricultural Workers	\$8.52
Food Processing Workers	\$14.14
Graders & Sorters, Agricultural Products	\$7.45
Packers & Packagers, Hand	\$8.45
Office Clerks, General	\$11.63
Retail Sales Workers	\$8.96
Truck Drivers, Light	\$10.34
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	\$16.34

\* Wage data includes nine counties of eastern Idaho. 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 2000, 2009 & 2010	2000		2009		2010	
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
<b>Total Covered Wages</b>	498	\$20,456	575	\$32,975	517	\$37,416
Agriculture	14	\$14,736	89	\$23,206	78	\$28,991
Mining	*	*	0	\$0	0	\$0
Construction	0	\$0	3	\$23,027	*	*
Manufacturing	*	*	204	\$37,128	177	\$41,227
Trade, Utilities, & Transportation	59	\$14,795	37	\$19,631	27	\$23,519
Information	*	*	9	\$39,446	10	\$41,398
Financial Activities	16	\$22,689	12	\$63,859	11	\$115,615
Professional and Business Services	*	*	51	\$49,580	49	\$50,848
Educational and Health Services	*	*	3	\$36,944	4	\$43,174
Leisure and Hospitality	20	\$4,385	*	*	*	*
Other Services	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Government	170	\$23,557	164	\$28,964	160	\$30,321

Per Capita Income	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Clark County	\$23,653	\$29,235	\$25,836	\$27,265	\$27,563	\$27,461	\$26,593	\$31,580	\$45,202	\$40,907
State of Idaho	\$24,683	\$25,642	\$26,007	\$26,438	\$28,414	\$29,594	\$31,585	\$32,734	\$33,062	\$31,857
United States	\$30,318	\$31,145	\$31,461	\$32,271	\$33,881	\$35,424	\$37,698	\$39,461	\$40,674	\$39,635

Information provided by U.S. Census Bureau



This county is served by the office listed below:  
 Idaho Department of Labor  
 1133 Stocks Ave.  
 Rexburg, ID 83440 Ph: (208) 557-2501

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