



# Clark County

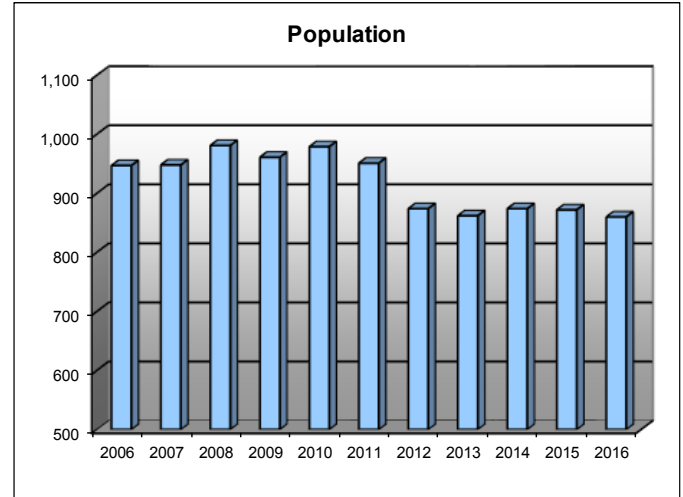
January 2018

## Workforce Trends

### Population

Clark County is the least populated county in the state with less than one person per square mile. In 2000, population peaked at just over one thousand, but has since struggled to maintain that level. After falling to below 900 people in 2003 the county began to see moderate population growth. From 2003 to 2008 the county's population increased to 980, growing 6 percent in five years.

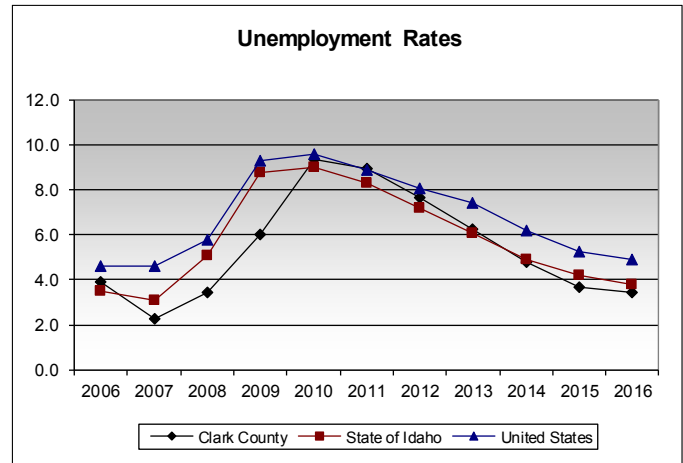
Population in the county began to fall towards the end of 2009 after Idahoan Foods closed down a potato processing plant. The plant was the county's largest employer and had supported 128 jobs—roughly 23 percent of the county's workforce. In 2016, the county's population dropped to 860.



### Labor Force & Employment

With a small labor force and population, unemployment rates can fluctuate significantly. The 2016 unemployment rate at 3.4 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. 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. The U.S. Department of Agriculture operates a research faculty, which studies and develops new breeds of sheep. Among the other industrial sectors, government provides the most jobs at 46 percent. Trade, transportation and utilities is



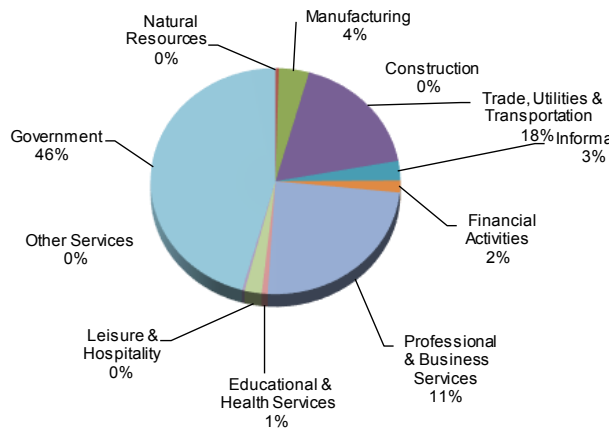
Labor Force	Dec 16	Dec 17
Civilian Labor Force	401	414
Total Employment	388	406
Unemployed	13	8
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.2	1.9
State of Idaho % Unemployed	3.6	2.9
U.S. % Unemployed	4.7	4.1

the second largest sector, employing 23 percent of workers. Efforts by economic development and county officials are underway to develop an energy park within the county.

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	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Civilian Labor Force	526	553	596	549	537	516	425	425	443	396	398
Unemployment	21	13	21	33	50	46	32	27	21	15	14
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.9	2.3	3.4	6.0	9.4	8.9	7.6	6.3	4.8	3.7	3.4
Employment	506	541	575	516	486	470	392	398	422	381	385

## Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2016



## Covered Employment & Wages

Covered employment decreased 18 percent 2006 and 2016. Average wages increased \$10,144, or 34 percent, during the decade. Between 2015 and 2016 wages decreased in only the agriculture sector. In the sectors that could be published, professional and business services experienced the largest wage growth at 23 percent. The closure of the potato processing plant has had a dramatic impact on the county's employment and wages. It should be noted that these wages are counted where the job is located.

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 Idaho Occupational Wages*	Entry Wage	Median Wage
Cashiers	\$8.32	\$9.29
Farm Equipment Mechanics	\$10.01	\$13.06
Industrial Truck/Tractor Operators	\$11.97	\$15.25
Farmworkers & Laborers	\$8.30	\$9.54
Food Preparation Workers	\$8.26	\$8.71
Graders & Sorters, Agricultural Products	\$8.26	\$8.61
Packers & Packagers, Hand	\$8.37	\$9.37
Office Clerks, General	\$9.04	\$12.64
Retail Salespersons	\$8.34	\$10.73
Truck Drivers, Light	\$8.59	\$14.19
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	\$12.44	\$17.34

\*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>	522	\$29,867	427	\$39,541	430	\$40,011
<b>Agriculture</b>	46	\$28,420	134	\$35,642	131	\$34,188
<b>Mining</b>	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
<b>Construction</b>	6	\$36,809	*	*	*	*
<b>Manufacturing</b>	201	\$25,429	*	*	*	*
<b>Trade, Utilities, &amp; Transportation</b>	34	\$34,279	52	\$48,388	54	\$51,275
<b>Information</b>	*	*	*	*	*	*
<b>Financial Activities</b>	15	\$50,512	8	\$67,882	*	*
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	47	\$44,459	73	\$52,317	73	\$54,807
<b>Educational and Health Services</b>	*	*	3	\$100,072	*	*
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	*	*	*	*	*	*
<b>Other Services</b>	*	*	0	\$0	*	*
<b>Government</b>	152	\$29,796	131	\$30,410	135	\$31,053

Per Capita Income	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<b>Clark County</b>	\$19,851	\$27,302	\$22,461	\$23,907	\$31,781	\$26,069	\$32,954	\$26,889	\$25,390	\$26,099
<b>State of Idaho</b>	\$32,580	\$33,031	\$31,436	\$31,726	\$33,296	\$34,695	\$35,720	\$37,186	\$38,848	\$39,470
<b>United States</b>	\$39,821	\$41,082	\$39,376	\$40,277	\$42,461	\$44,282	\$44,493	\$46,494	\$48,451	\$49,246

Information provided by Bureau Economic Analysis



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