



Clearwater County

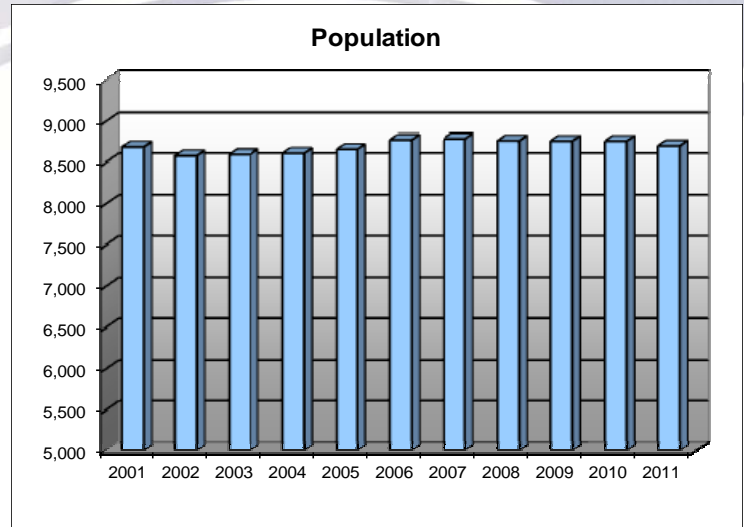
April 2012

Work Force Trends

Population

During the early 1990s, Clearwater County's population grew, peaking at 9,232 in 1996. But hard economic times drove the population down 6 percent by 2001. Between 2001 and 2011, its population grew 0.1 percent from 8,689 in 2001 to 8,702 in 2011 while U.S. population grew 9.3 percent and Idaho's population grew 20.1 percent. New driver's license applications and job registrations indicate that people who move to Clearwater County came from the Pacific Northwest and California. They come to enjoy the scenery, recreational opportunities and rural lifestyle.

The county seat, Orofino, had a population of 3,142 in 2010 while Pierce had 508, Weippe 441 and Elk River 125.



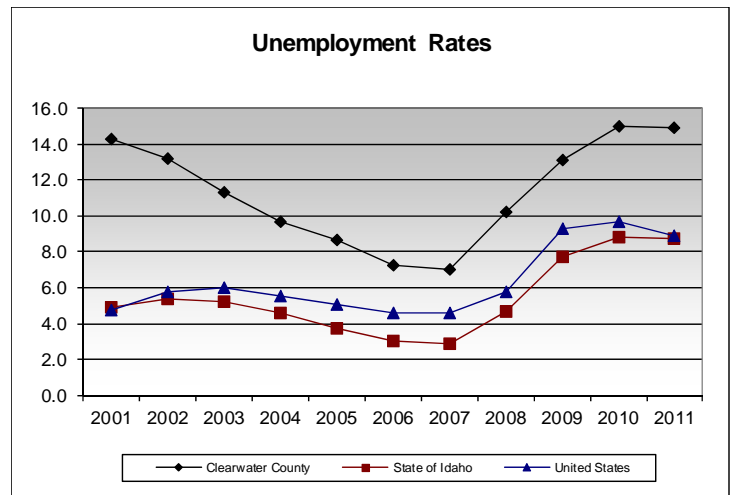
Labor Force & Employment

The decline in the forest products industry climaxed in 2000 with the closure of Pierce's Jaype Mill. But by 2006, Clearwater County began to show signs of recovery. Jobs were added in manufacturing, construction, retail, health care and tourism. Unfortunately, trouble in the lumber industry once again unsettled the area and pushed the unemployment rate above 10 percent in 2008.

Economic development groups want to diversify and attract new businesses while helping existing businesses grow. An industrial park was built in Orofino, and Architectural Signs and Engraving Inc. was the first tenant. The SJX Boats plant opened there in 2008.

Nightforce Optics moved to the area a few year ago and now employs 80 people making high-quality rifle scopes for hunters, police and the military.

Federal and state employment provides some job stability. The U.S. Forest Service employs 80 year-round



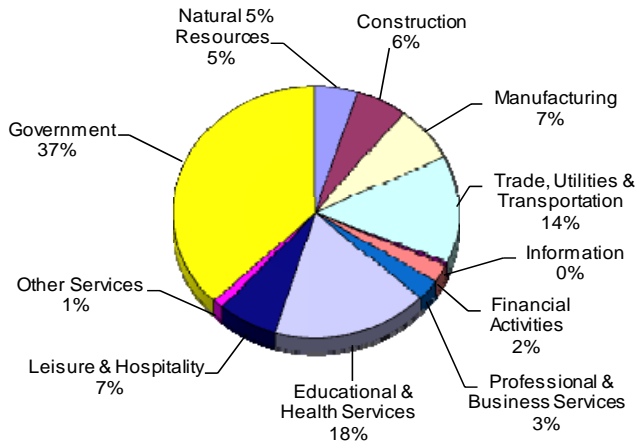
and a few dozen more in the summer. Orofino is home to a U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service hatchery employing 45. The state penitentiary and mental health hospital employ 200. The National Guard plans to open a boot camp-style school for teens, employing 50 people in Pierce, in 2013.

Tourists come to enjoy hunting and fishing and boating on Dworshak Reservoir and to learn about the area's role in the Lewis and Clark Expedition. The economic downturn has reduced tourist spending in the last couple of years.

Labor Force	Mar 11	Mar 12
Civilian Labor Force	3,241	3,292
Total Employment	2,824	2,873
Unemployed	417	420
% of Labor Force Unemployed	12.9	12.7
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	3,555	3,478	3,273	3,334	3,301	3,259	3,191	3,218	3,464	3,389	3,311
Unemployment	508	459	370	322	287	235	224	330	453	508	494
% of Labor Force Unemployed	14.3	13.2	11.3	9.7	8.7	7.2	7.0	10.2	13.1	15.0	14.9
Employment	3,047	3,019	2,903	3,012	3,014	3,023	2,967	2,889	3,011	2,881	2,818

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2010



Economic Development

Clearwater County has struggled with high unemployment since the mid-1990s. Because of that, the county is a labor surplus area, giving local businesses priority for government contracts.

Clearwater County Economic Development and local officials are making efforts to strengthen and diversify the economy. Over the next few years, the county expects to see those efforts pay off. The county hopes to build a woody biomass plant in Orofino in a couple of years.

Major Employers

Clearwater County
Clearwater Healthcare LLC
Clearwater Valley Hospital & Clinic
Idaho Correctional Institution
Orofino Joint School District 171
State Hospital North
Tri-Pro Forest Products
U.S. Forest Service

Occupational Wages*

Starting Wage

Assemblers	\$9.00
Bookkeepers	\$10.20
Carpenters	\$13.70
Cashiers	\$7.50
Equipment Operators	\$11.80
General Office Clerks	\$8.00
Guards	\$9.80
Janitors	\$8.00
Millworkers	\$9.20
Nurses	\$21.40
Salespersons, Retail	\$7.80
Secretaries	\$10.20
Teachers	\$20.70
Truck Drivers, Heavy	\$13.50

* Additional occupational wage data can be found on the Idaho Department of Labor website at 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
Total Covered Wages	3,146	\$25,100	2,903	\$29,613	2,845	\$30,873
Agriculture	336	\$27,463	192	\$34,571	197	\$36,025
Mining	*	*	0	\$0	0	\$0
Construction	122	\$21,969	151	\$33,381	161	\$38,195
Manufacturing	451	\$33,243	219	\$30,994	207	\$33,025
Trade, Utilities & Transportation	371	\$19,978	379	\$26,181	361	\$28,016
Information	19	\$21,933	21	\$24,241	14	\$37,455
Financial Activities	67	\$16,639	67	\$25,291	60	\$23,724
Professional and Business Services	97	\$32,710	84	\$19,125	77	\$19,066
Educational and Health Services	290	\$21,649	490	\$29,645	503	\$29,781
Leisure and Hospitality	190	\$7,429	212	\$11,093	195	\$11,983
Other Services	42	\$17,678	38	\$17,616	33	\$17,952
Government	1,161	\$27,147	1,051	\$34,491	1,037	\$35,015

Per Capita Income	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Clearwater County	\$20,258	\$21,996	\$23,505	\$24,251	\$25,522	\$27,087	\$28,540	\$29,895	\$30,950	\$31,560
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 Bureau of Economic Analysis



This county is served by the office listed below:
 Idaho Department of Labor
 410 Johnson Ave.
 Orofino, ID 83544 Ph: (208) 476-5506

labor.idaho.gov