



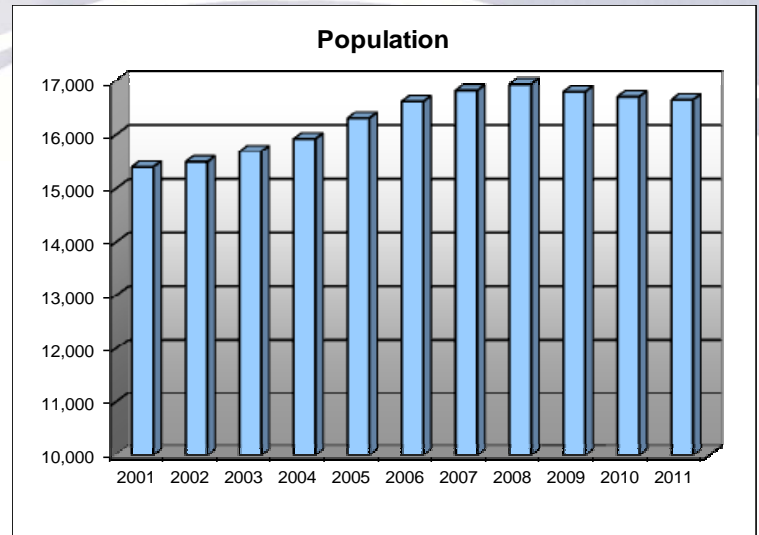
Gem County

April 2012

Work Force Trends

Population

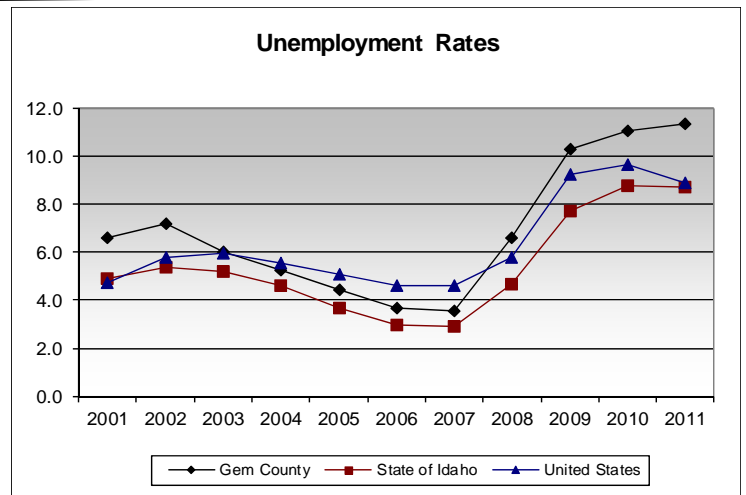
Gem County is the 19th most populous of Idaho's 44 counties and the fifth smallest geographically. Thirty-eight percent of the land is owned by the federal government. The population steadily increased through 2008 before declining slightly from 2009 to 2011 as the recession took hold. From 2001 to 2011 the population increased 8.3 percent, or almost 1,300. As growth in the neighboring population centers of Ada and Canyon counties slowed, the overflow into Gem County declined. People had been moving to the county to escape the crowds and congestion and enjoy a more rural life-style than the nearby metropolitan areas provide.



Labor Force & Employment

After experiencing unemployment rates under 4 percent during 2006 and 2007, the unemployment rate has more than tripled, to 12 percent. 2011 saw its second annual increase in the labor force, but the unemployment rate increased by .2 percent as jobs could not keep up with demand. Since over 70 percent of residents commute to Ada and Canyon counties for work, the major job losses in both contributed to rising unemployment in Gem County.

Total non-farm jobs remained relatively stable despite the increase in the unemployment rate. Jobs decreased by only seven from 2009 to 2010. The biggest declines were in other services at 39 percent and financial activities at 23 percent. Manufacturing showed the largest increase both in rate and net figures due to the

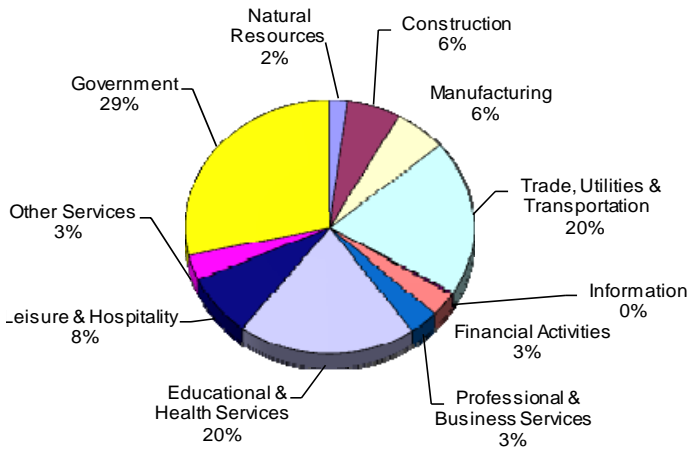


opening of the Emerald Forest Product mill. While the majority of industry sectors grew in 2010, the growth was only in single digits and not enough to offset the jobs lost in the declining industry sectors.

Labor Force	Mar 11	Mar 12
Civilian Labor Force	7,076	7,241
Total Employment	6,315	6,512
Unemployed	761	729
% of Labor Force Unemployed	10.8	10.1
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	7,222	7,089	7,022	6,967	7,140	7,246	7,080	7,059	6,898	6,996	7,133
Unemployment	478	509	421	367	316	267	253	468	709	774	811
% of Labor Force Unemployed	6.6	7.2	6.0	5.3	4.4	3.7	3.6	6.6	10.3	11.1	11.4
Employment	6,744	6,580	6,601	6,601	6,824	6,979	6,827	6,590	6,189	6,221	6,322

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2010



Per Capita Income & Employment

Gem County's per capita income fell from 34th in 2007 to 33rd among the counties in 2008 and to 31st in 2009. Average wages in construction grew 50 percent since the recession began, likely due to fewer part-time workers and increased hours for those remaining.

Employment in Gem County grew 1.4 percent to 3,052. The county itself saw healthy economic activity with the opening of Emerald Forest Product Mill in 2010. Those employment gains made manufacturing the best performing industry in the county, growing by over 38 percent from 2009. Regardless, the county's dependence on jobs from surrounding areas limits its ability to escape the employment-related impact of the Great Recession.

Major Employers

Gem County
Elderly Opportunity Agency Inc.
Walter Knox Memorial Hospital
Emmett Middle School
Emmett High School
Butte View Elementary School
Community Partnerships of Idaho Inc.
City of Emmett
Emmett Valley and Shoshone Livestock

Occupational Wages*

Starting Wage

Retail Salesperson	\$8.14
Licensed Practical Nurse	\$16.01
Construction Laborer	\$10.46
Cook, Restaurant	\$8.27
Medical Assistant	\$11.97
Farm Laborer	\$8.05
Maintenance Workers	\$9.96
Equipment Operator, Agricultural	\$11.54
Registered Nurse	\$23.23
Office Clerk	\$9.03
Electrician	\$15.29
Bookkeeper	\$11.08

* 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	3,211	\$23,049	3,052	\$25,576	3,095	\$26,655
Agriculture	211	\$24,778	139	\$27,248	145	\$29,305
Mining	*	*	*	*	14	\$34,774
Construction	204	\$21,964	181	\$26,313	184	\$32,501
Manufacturing	467	\$40,305	130	\$34,186	180	\$34,858
Trade, Utilities & Transportation	704	\$17,075	594	\$23,910	584	\$26,083
Information	26	\$19,321	17	\$23,526	10	\$26,173
Financial Activities	107	\$21,378	97	\$32,220	87	\$32,948
Professional and Business Services	119	\$19,067	109	\$33,688	101	\$37,335
Educational and Health Services	292	\$20,670	605	\$23,632	614	\$23,095
Leisure and Hospitality	205	\$8,024	236	\$10,256	243	\$10,852
Other Services	75	\$12,991	84	\$18,655	76	\$19,472
Government	789	\$24,485	846	\$29,420	857	\$29,272

Per Capita Income	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Gem County	\$19,850	\$20,735	\$20,230	\$20,423	\$21,887	\$23,361	\$25,203	\$26,556	\$28,012	\$27,464
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
 2030 S. Washington St.
 Emmett, ID 83617-9450 Ph: (208) 364-7780

labor.idaho.gov

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