



# Gem County

IDAHO  
DEPT. OF LABOR

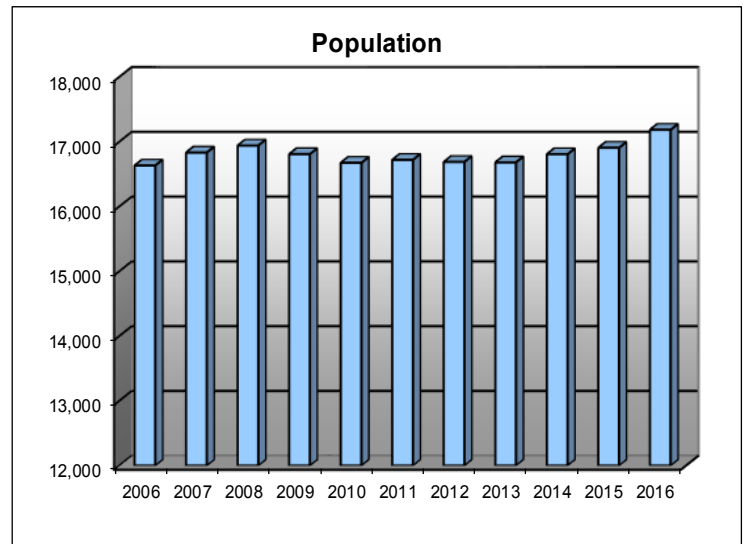
October 2017

## Workforce Trends

### Population

The population in Gem County steadily increased through 2008 before declining slightly as the recession took hold. Since 2010, the population has stayed relatively level, fluctuating slightly from year to year. From 2006 to 2016, the population increased 3.3 percent, or 552. As growth in the neighboring population centers of Ada and Canyon counties slowed during the recession, the overflow into Gem County declined. People had been moving to the county to escape the crowds and congestion and enjoy a more rural lifestyle than the nearby metropolitan areas provided. Now that population in the major counties has picked up, the population in Gem County has begun to grow again.

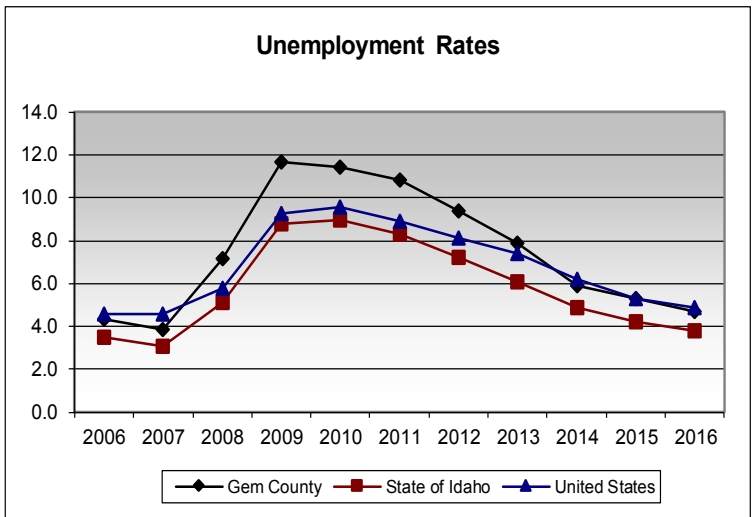
Emmett is the county's largest city with a 2016 population of 6,717, an increase of nearly 100 people.



### Labor Force & Employment

After experiencing unemployment rates under 4 percent during 2006 and 2007, Gem County's unemployment rate more than tripled to 11.7 percent in 2009. Since then, the rate declined 7 points to 4.7 percent in 2016. In this same time, the county experienced a labor force growth of 5.6 percent. The largest growth occurred between 2009 and 2010, up 10 percent or 695 people. The number of unemployed persons has decreased steadily since 2010 to an annual average of 365 in 2016.

Total covered jobs increased by 165 from 2015 to 3,648 in 2016. This growth was slightly less than the increase of 195 over the last decade. The largest gain was in the trade, utilities and transportation, which added 44 jobs. The education and health services sector had the



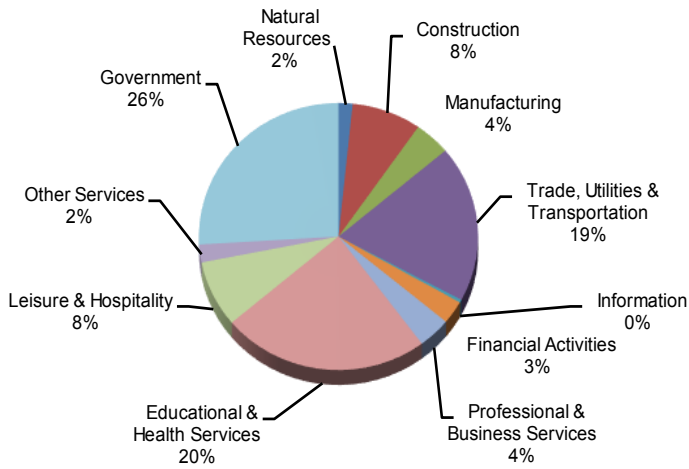
largest increases to covered employment over the past decade with 320. Government, including public schools, posted the next highest ten-year gain with 75 jobs.

Agriculture was the only sector to report a job loss in 2016, down 32. Over the last decade, half of the industrial sectors reported a loss in the number of jobs, 271. On the positive side, the other half of the industries reported an increase of 463 jobs.

Labor Force	Sep 16	Sep 17
Civilian Labor Force	7,742	7,906
Total Employment	7,403	7,629
Unemployed	339	277
% of Labor Force Unemployed	4.4	3.5
State of Idaho % Unemployed	3.8	2.8
U.S. % Unemployed	4.9	4.2

Labor Force	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Civilian Labor Force	7,334	7,097	7,038	6,985	7,680	7,703	7,609	7,504	7,523	7,552	7,741
Unemployment	316	272	503	817	878	833	716	591	444	402	365
% of Labor Force Unemployed	4.3	3.8	7.1	11.7	11.4	10.8	9.4	7.9	5.9	5.3	4.7
Employment	7,018	6,826	6,535	6,168	6,802	6,871	6,892	6,914	7,079	7,150	7,376

## Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2016



## Per Capita Income, Nonfarm Jobs & Wages

Gem County's per capita income rose \$1,346 in 2015. The county ranked at 33rd out of 44 counties, up one from 2015. However, it continues below both the state and national levels

Government, including public schools, makes up the majority of Gem County's employment with 26 percent in 2016. Trade, utilities and transportation along with education and health services sector follow with 39 percent of total nonfarm between them.

Covered wages increased by \$1,258 in 2016 to \$30,484. Information has the highest wages as well as the largest increase, \$15,110. The lowest wages are in leisure and hospitality at \$11,080.

## Major Employers

City of Emmett
Community Partnerships of Idaho Inc.
Elderly Opportunity Agency Inc.
Emmett Independent School District #221
Emmett Valley & Shoshone Livestock
Gem County
McDonalds
State of Idaho Department of Health & Welfare
Walter Knox Memorial Hospital

Boise City MSA Wages*	Occupational Entry Wage	Median Wage
Retail Salesperson	\$8.36	\$10.94
Licensed Practical Nurse	\$16.36	\$20.47
Construction Laborer	\$9.88	\$13.88
Cook, Restaurant	\$8.38	\$10.58
Medical Assistant	\$12.38	\$14.71
Farmworkers & Laborers, Crop, Nursery & Greenhouse	\$8.11	\$8.94
Maintenance Worker, Machinery	\$16.67	\$22.56
Agricultural Equipment Operator	\$11.16	\$16.30
Registered Nurse	\$24.73	\$30.69
Office Clerks, General	\$9.70	\$14.10
Electrician	\$14.80	\$22.58
Bookkeeping, Accounting & Auditing Clerks	\$12.46	\$16.93

\* 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>	3,453	\$24,880	3,481	\$29,226	3,648	\$30,484
<b>Agriculture</b>	172	\$27,640	209	\$34,199	177	\$39,082
<b>Mining</b>	*	*	*	*	*	*
<b>Construction</b>	385	\$24,568	249	\$30,644	277	\$31,679
<b>Manufacturing</b>	145	\$33,410	133	\$29,532	144	\$30,730
<b>Trade, Utilities &amp; Transportation</b>	709	\$27,521	606	\$33,030	650	\$31,213
<b>Information</b>	70	\$31,552	13	\$25,990	12	\$41,100
<b>Financial Activities</b>	136	\$26,265	87	\$37,025	93	\$36,279
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	114	\$25,936	105	\$32,134	128	\$34,464
<b>Educational and Health Services</b>	538	\$19,246	842	\$26,192	858	\$27,176
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	238	\$9,318	262	\$10,834	287	\$11,080
<b>Other Services</b>	76	\$17,702	69	\$25,369	75	\$26,493
<b>Government</b>	857	\$28,162	891	\$32,263	931	\$35,709

Per Capita Income	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
<b>Gem County</b>	\$24,459	\$25,667	\$27,569	\$27,021	\$27,022	\$27,785	\$28,795	\$30,931	\$31,617	\$32,963
<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 of Economic Analysis

**IDAHO**  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER, GOVERNOR  
KENNETH D. EDMUNDS, DIRECTOR

This county is served by the office listed below:  
Idaho Department of Labor  
288 Idaho Highway 16  
Emmett, ID 83617-9450 Ph: (208) 364-7780

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

This publication is produced by the Idaho Department of Labor and is funded at least in part by federal grants from the U.S. Department of Labor. Costs associated with this publication are available upon request. The Idaho Department of Labor is an equal opportunity employer and service provider. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Dial 711 for Idaho Relay Service.