



Gooding County

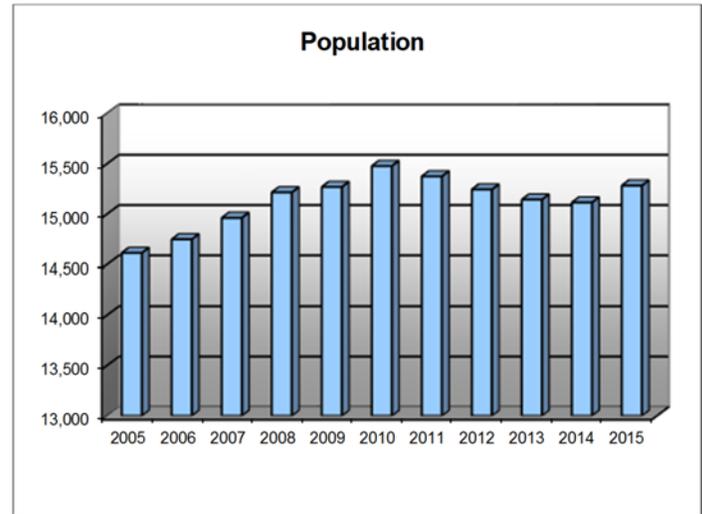
IDAHO
DEPT. OF LABOR

November 2016

Workforce Trends

Population

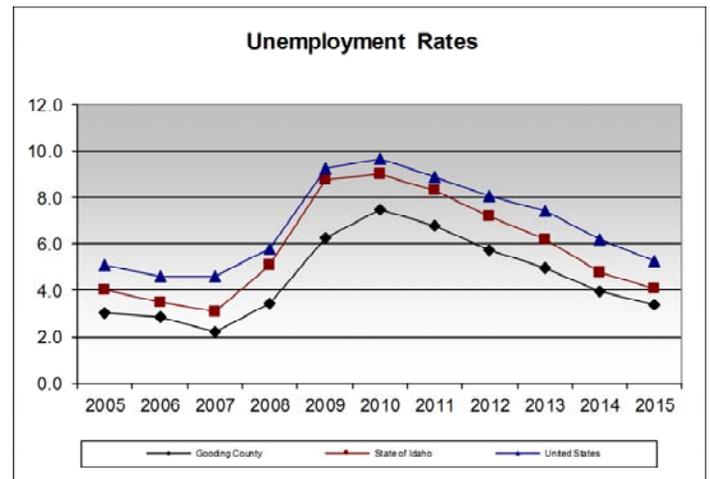
Gooding County's population of 15,284 in 2015 is regaining lost ground from the last four years, the decade grew 4.6 percent. Restructuring at the Idaho School for the Deaf and Blind between 2003 and 2006 took its toll, as did the recession and low dairy prices in 2009. Gooding County is the state's dairy leader, but the explosive growth over the last 15 years was blunted by moratoria on dairies and feedlots. The industry has converted typically migrant, seasonal workers into permanent residents. The county seat and largest town is Gooding at 3,509 residents in 2015. Wendell, coined the Hub City due to its central location, is the second largest town at 2,744. Over half the county lives outside town borders. Despite the predominance of dairy, the county's agriculture is diverse raising specialty onions and beef cattle to being a national leader in trout. North Canyon Medical Center opened its new facility in 2010 in Gooding. Glanbia continues to grow its footprint in Gooding County, adding higher-skilled and better-paying jobs at its whey plant and acquiring a warehouse within Gooding city.



Labor Force & Employment

The civilian labor force has been steadily growing in Gooding County over the last decade from 6,600 in the late 1990s to 8,000 in 2010. The unemployment rate has fluctuated from a low 2.2 percent in 2007 to 7.5 percent in 2010. It remains well below state and national rates.

Dairy and cheese processing plants provide stable year-round employment. The rapid growth in dairies has slowed in recent years as environmental concerns forced the Gooding County Commission to tighten standards for large livestock operators. Kieferbuilt Trailers started operations in 2004 and provided higher skilled jobs until it shut down during the recession. Its space was filled by Wel Companies, a logistics and warehousing company which recently sold to Glanbia. Residents continue to

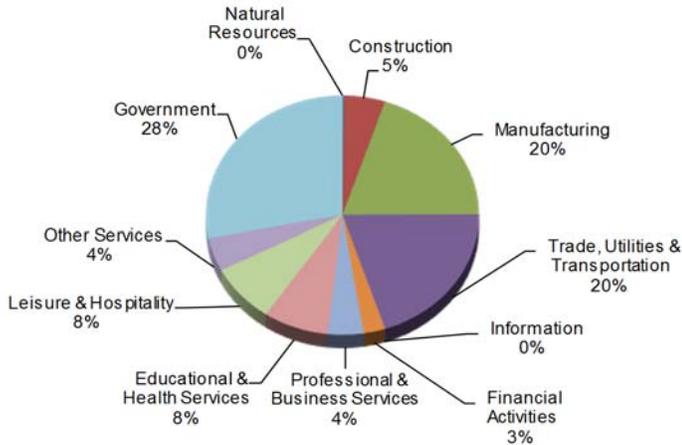


commute to Blaine County providing higher-paying landscaping and construction services. These jobs were scarce in the economic downturn despite the needs of estates, second homes and hotels in Sun Valley and Ketchum. A growing charter school competes for students, drawing from the public school budget. Glanbia, with cheese and whey plants regionally located, is a large-scale buyer of milk and an innovative business leader in pre-treatment of its waste water. Gooding County's outlook is steady but not high growth.

Labor Force	Oct 15	Oct 16
Civilian Labor Force	8,015	7,942
Total Employment	7,780	7,723
Unemployed	235	219
% of Labor Force Unemployed	2.9	2.8
State of Idaho % Unemployed	4.0	3.8
U.S. % Unemployed	5.0	4.9

Labor Force	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Civilian Labor Force	8,142	8,523	8,805	8,734	8,380	8,497	8,364	8,108	8,063	7,991	8,038
Unemployment	246	244	193	302	523	634	565	463	398	319	273
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.0	2.9	2.2	3.5	6.2	7.5	6.8	5.7	4.9	4.0	3.4
Employment	7,896	8,280	8,612	8,433	7,857	7,864	7,799	7,646	7,665	7,672	7,765

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2015



Wages & Income

Income generated from dairies combined with value-added manufacturing, transportation jobs and access to higher-paying jobs in Blaine County have been the catalyst for much of Gooding County's growth in per capita income. Gooding County per capita income ranks 2nd among Idaho's 44 counties. A drop in milk prices in 2009 caused a plummet to 25th place. Gooding's per capita income is almost 56 percent higher than the state's per capita income. Covered jobs has been flat from 2014 to 2015, except for Education and Health Services up 14 percent and Other Services up 20 percent. Retail trade has been supplanted over the last decade by Twin Falls—it has dropped 10 percent of its workforce. Wages have grown by 9 percent in Financial Services and 4 percent overall.

GOODING COUNTY

Major Employers

Bettencourt Dairies	Helena Chemical Company
Box Canyon Dairy	Idaho State School for Deaf & Blind
Clear Springs Food	Jack Verbree Jr. Dairy
D & D Transportation	Jesus Hurtado Dairy
Glanbia N.A.	Magic Valley Growers
Gooding City	North Canyon Medical Center
Gooding County	Scarrow Dairy Farm
Gooding School District	Wendell School District

GOODING COUNTY

Occupational Wages*

Median Wage

Cashiers	\$9.29
Cheese Processors	\$16.34
Construction Labor	\$12.76
Ag workers, farm/ranch animals	\$9.30
Industrial Maintenance Mechanics	\$23.87
Receptionists	\$12.35
Registered Nurses	\$26.98
Social Workers	\$25.88
Substance Abuse Counselors	\$19.54
Teachers (annual)	\$43,380
Servers (with tips)	\$8.94

* Additional occupational wage data can be found on the Idaho Department of Labor website at imi.idaho.gov.

Covered Employment & Average Annual Wages Per Job for 2005, 2014 & 2015	2005		2014		2015	
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
Total Covered Wages	6,236	\$25,120	5,906	\$31,488	5,924	\$32,851
Agriculture	2,076	\$23,867	1,895	\$30,479	1,885	\$32,140
Mining	6	\$17,434	6	\$21,127	6	\$22,724
Construction	280	\$27,726	183	\$28,626	185	\$28,226
Manufacturing	732	\$33,794	787	\$46,200	811	\$48,614
Trade, Utilities & Transportation	895	\$26,501	839	\$32,370	806	\$32,589
Information	*	*	*	*	*	*
Financial Activities	125	\$25,846	105	\$26,734	96	\$29,155
Professional and Business Services	264	\$24,620	156	\$43,127	159	\$44,562
Educational and Health Services	326	\$23,048	276	\$26,974	315	\$24,777
Leisure and Hospitality	309	\$8,581	334	\$10,751	324	\$11,423
Other Services	127	\$29,299	158	\$46,911	189	\$45,657
Government	1,095	\$24,780	1,167	\$26,836	1,148	\$28,716

Per Capita Income	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Gooding County	\$30,747	\$29,034	\$36,412	\$36,284	\$27,618	\$36,458	\$43,827	\$46,168	\$47,925	\$57,168
State of Idaho	\$29,815	\$31,945	\$32,952	\$32,854	\$31,392	\$32,050	\$33,544	\$34,846	\$35,641	\$36,734
United States	\$35,904	\$38,144	\$39,821	\$41,082	\$39,376	\$40,277	\$42,453	\$44,266	\$44,438	\$46,049

Information provided by Bureau of Economic Analysis



This county is served by the office listed below:
 Idaho Department of Labor—Twin Falls
 420 Falls Ave
 Twin Falls, ID 83301-5129 Ph: (208) 735-2500

labor.idaho.gov

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