



# Kootenai County

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DEPT. OF LABOR

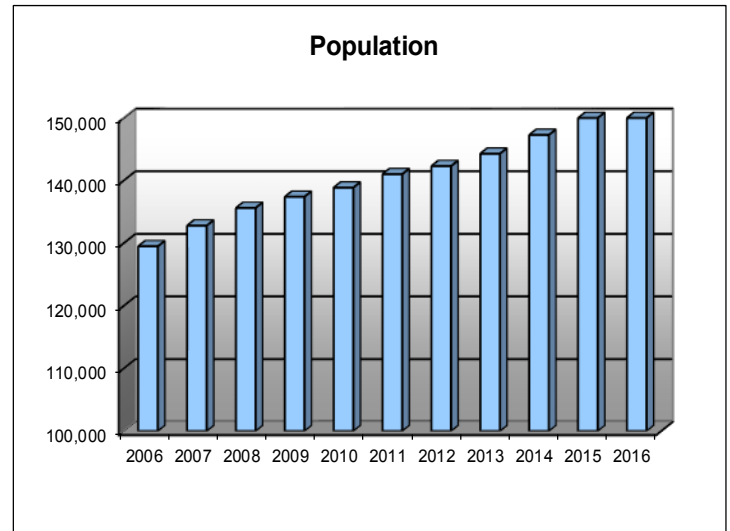
October 2017

## Workforce Trends

### Population

Kootenai County has experienced exceptionally strong population growth since the 1970s. From 2006 to 2016 its population grew 19.1 percent from 129,510 to 154,311 while Idaho's population grew 14.6 percent and the U.S. population grew 8.38 percent. The county's spectacular scenery, outdoor recreational opportunities, proximity to urban amenities and high quality of life continue to draw new residents. Strong population growth shapes many aspects of its economy.

The county seat, Coeur d'Alene, had a population of 49,122 in 2015. The populations of the larger cities include 30,453 in Post Falls, 14,133 in Hayden and 7,538 in Rathdrum. The county is closely tied to neighboring Spokane County, Washinton, with a population of 490,945

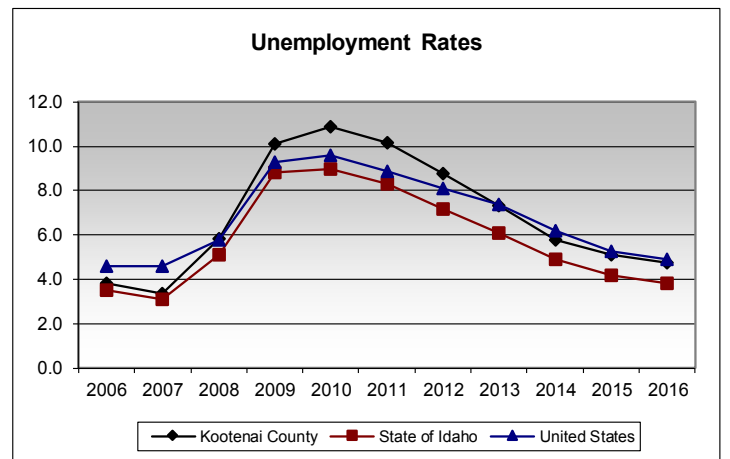


### Labor Force & Employment

During the last 25 years, the local economy grew at an astounding rate on a diversifying manufacturing base, expanded tourism and new call centers and other business services. Tourism and population growth fueled the construction boom and boosted retail, health care, services and government jobs.

The opening of the Coeur d'Alene Resort in 1987 spurred tourism. The Silverwood theme park opened in 1988 and has continued to grow every year, hitting record levels in 2015. In 1994, the Coeur d'Alene Tribe opened a casino in Worley. Today, the golf course, hotel, and recently expanded casino employ nearly 1,580 people. Tourism employment peaked in 2007 at 9,050, hit bottom at 7,800 in 2010 and is on the rebound—nearing 8,200 in 2012.

Also promoting economic diversification and growth during the last decade was the relocation of many manu-



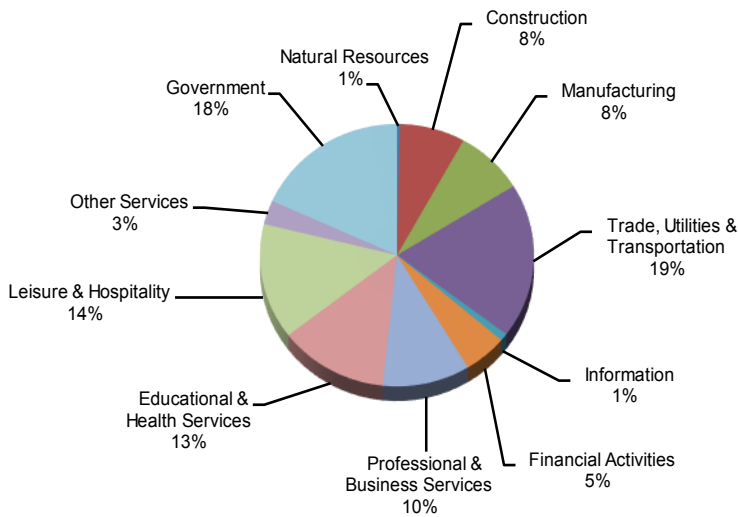
facturing operations and four call centers to Kootenai County. Over 4,700 people work in the county's manufacturing businesses while over 1,400 people work at call centers. Kootenai County's low business costs, good business climate and quality of life have attracted many new employers. In 2005, Buck Knives opened a manufacturing plant that employs approximately 300, and US Bank opened a customer service center that employs nearly 600. Biotech lab ALK Abello and manufacturers Berg Industries and Burly Products moved from Spokane County to Kootenai County.

Despite the recession, the county continues to lay the foundation for further economic growth.

Labor Force	Sep 16	Sep 17
Civilian Labor Force	73,754	73,553
Total Employment	70,343	71,002
Unemployed	3,411	2,551
% of Labor Force Unemployed	4.6	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	68,675	69,434	70,769	70,972	68,851	69,294	68,603	69,292	70,570	71,761	73,500
Unemployment	2,627	2,327	4,116	7,167	7,514	7,032	6,017	5,077	4,078	3,667	3,501
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.8	3.4	5.8	10.1	10.9	10.1	8.8	7.3	5.8	5.1	4.8
Employment	66,048	67,106	66,653	63,805	61,337	62,263	62,586	64,215	66,492	68,094	69,998

## Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2016



## Economic Development

Kootenai County's growing population and economic development provide many opportunities for business creation. The number of private-sector employers increased slightly in 2015 to 4,588, employing 45,703 workers.

Jobs Plus, the local economic development organization, has recruited dozens of businesses over the last 20 years. Low business costs, a pleasant business climate, low electricity and natural gas costs and an affordable workforce are among the county's attractions for new businesses.

## Major Employers

Kootenai Health (hospital)
Coeur d'Alene Resort
Coeur d'Alene Casino
Center Partners (call centers)
Silverwood Theme Park
North Idaho College
Esterline Advanced Input Systems (manufacturer)
U.S. Bank (including customer service center)

Coeur d'Alene MSA Occupational Wages*	Entry Wage	Median Wage
Assemblers	\$10.33	\$11.88
Bookkeepers	\$10.84	\$16.57
Carpenters, Journey-level	\$12.69	\$17.89
Cashiers	\$8.24	\$9.25
Clerks, General Office	\$9.85	\$13.30
Clerks, Retail Sales	\$8.98	\$11.45
Cooks, Restaurant	\$9.29	\$10.99
Customer Service Reps	\$8.91	\$11.07
Janitors	\$9.25	\$11.34
Laborers, General	\$9.31	\$12.51
Machinists	\$13.43	\$19.57
Nurses, Registered	\$24.66	\$34.00
Secretaries, General	\$11.58	\$15.17
Truck Drivers, Heavy	\$13.69	\$17.79

\* 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>	54,593	\$29,776	56,079	\$35,464	58,061	\$36,617
<b>Agriculture</b>	547	\$32,585	265	\$38,887	269	\$39,256
<b>Mining</b>	149	\$77,745	109	\$175,536	105	\$228,216
<b>Construction</b>	5,828	\$32,661	3,901	\$38,653	4,285	\$39,750
<b>Manufacturing</b>	4,738	\$35,056	4,797	\$41,648	4,756	\$43,718
<b>Trade, Utilities &amp; Transportation</b>	10,336	\$28,760	10,795	\$34,309	11,065	\$35,434
<b>Information</b>	984	\$36,889	545	\$59,131	546	\$61,844
<b>Financial Activities</b>	2,837	\$41,291	2,828	\$48,619	2,907	\$51,593
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	6,058	\$31,429	5,575	\$35,854	5,909	\$36,801
<b>Educational and Health Services</b>	5,291	\$29,862	7,244	\$34,207	7,555	\$35,833
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	7,300	\$13,978	8,251	\$16,609	8,483	\$17,102
<b>Other Services</b>	1,360	\$20,318	1,318	\$24,821	1,347	\$26,433
<b>Government</b>	9,165	\$33,928	10,452	\$43,184	10,834	\$43,239

Per Capita Income	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
<b>Kootenai County</b>	\$31,551	\$32,647	\$32,759	\$31,490	\$31,646	\$33,320	\$34,883	\$35,779	\$37,350	\$38,605
<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

This county is served by the office listed below:  
 Idaho Department of Labor  
 600 North Thornton St.  
 Post Falls, Idaho 83854 Ph: (208) 457-4789

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

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

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