



Lewis County

April 2012

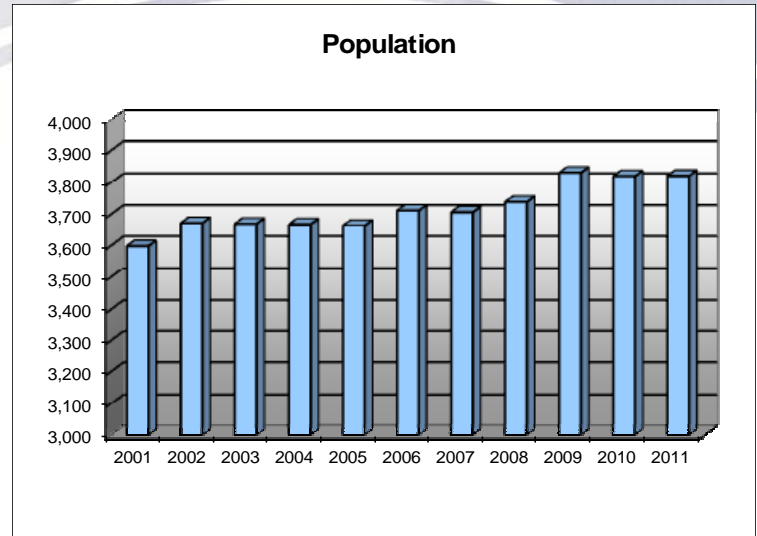
Work Force Trends

Population

Lewis County's population grew 6 percent from 3,599 in 2001 to 3,822 in 2011 while U.S. population grew 9 percent and Idaho's population grew 20 percent.

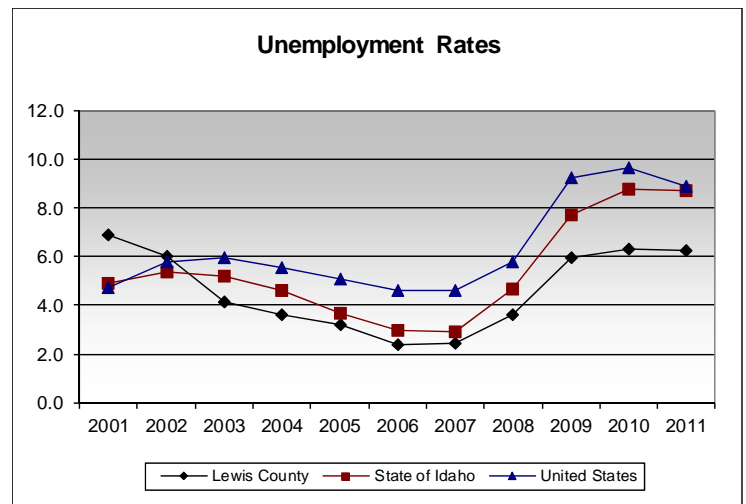
Declining job opportunities in natural resource-based industries caused some young families to move out. This exodus was mostly offset by the influx of retirees looking for rural charm, safety, scenic beauty and hunting and fishing opportunities. Parts of Lewis County are also becoming bedroom communities for Lewiston.

The 2010 populations of the county's incorporated cities were 1,295 in Kamiah, 501 in Craigmont, 466 in Nezperce, 340 in Winchester and 71 in Reubens.



Labor Force & Employment

Lewis County remains heavily dependent on natural resource, especially agriculture and forest products. Farm income remains a major factor in the spending power of county residents. High prices for wheat, cattle, and other commodities are boosting the local economy. Over time the forest products industry has lost jobs, but it remains a major source of employment in several communities. In 2010, the Blue North Forest Products mill opened in Kamiah, hiring 60. Since 2007, falling U.S. housing starts have depressed lumber prices, forcing some mills to reduce hours or cut jobs. Today, 150 people work at sawmills and another 40 work in the logging industry. About 60 people work for other manufacturers. The largest is Hillco Technologies, a Nezperce company that



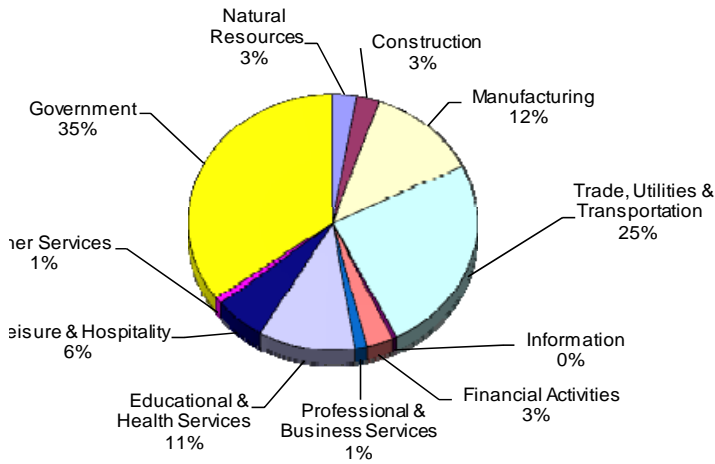
| Labor Force | Mar 11 | Mar 12 |
|-----------------------------|--------|--------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 1,730 | 1,747 |
| Total Employment | 1,632 | 1,653 |
| Unemployed | 97 | 94 |
| % of Labor Force Unemployed | 5.6 | 5.4 |
| State of Idaho % Unemployed | 8.7 | 7.9 |
| U.S. % Unemployed | 8.9 | 8.2 |

makes equipment to keep farm combines level. The Ende Foundry opened in Craigmont in spring 2011 and is expected to employ 17 people by 2013.

The county's tourism industry remains small. Public lands including Winchester State Park provide recreational opportunities, which help attract tourists and potential residents.

| Labor Force | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 1,708 | 1,749 | 1,670 | 1,691 | 1,721 | 1,715 | 1,700 | 1,697 | 1,741 | 1,766 | 1,741 |
| Unemployment | 118 | 105 | 70 | 61 | 55 | 41 | 42 | 62 | 104 | 112 | 109 |
| % of Labor Force Unemployed | 6.9 | 6.0 | 4.2 | 3.6 | 3.2 | 2.4 | 2.5 | 3.6 | 6.0 | 6.3 | 6.2 |
| Employment | 1,590 | 1,643 | 1,600 | 1,630 | 1,666 | 1,674 | 1,658 | 1,635 | 1,637 | 1,654 | 1,632 |

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2010



Economic Development

Ida-Lew Economic Development Council is a non-profit organization recruiting new businesses, assisting existing businesses, promoting infrastructure investment to sustain long-term economic growth and strengthening and diversifying the economies of Lewis and Idaho counties.

The Nez Perce Tribe also plays a major role in economic and community development in parts of Lewis, Clearwater and Nez Perce counties.

Major Employers

| |
|--|
| Blue North Forest Products |
| Cloningers Harvest Foods (grocery) |
| Flying B Ranch (tourism) |
| Highland Joint School District 305 |
| Hillco Technologies (farm equip. manufacturer) |
| It'se-Ye-Ye Casino (Nez Perce Tribe) |
| Kamiah Joint School District 304 |
| Kamiah Mills |
| Lewis County |
| Nezperce Joint School District 302 |
| Seeds Inc. |

Occupational Wages*

Starting Pay

| | |
|------------------------|---------|
| Agricultural Workers | \$9.50 |
| Assemblers | \$9.00 |
| Bookkeepers | \$10.20 |
| Carpenters | \$13.70 |
| Cashiers | \$7.50 |
| Cooks, Restaurant | \$8.00 |
| Janitors | \$8.20 |
| Laborers, Construction | \$9.00 |
| Nurses, Registered | \$21.40 |
| Salespersons, Retail | \$7.80 |
| Secretaries | \$10.20 |
| Teachers | \$20.80 |
| Truck Drivers, Heavy | \$13.80 |

*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 | 1,142 | \$18,951 | 1,362 | \$24,464 | 1,398 | \$25,410 |
| Agriculture | 97 | \$19,588 | 71 | \$29,162 | 76 | \$34,794 |
| Mining | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Construction | 31 | \$19,097 | 35 | \$25,331 | 36 | \$26,751 |
| Manufacturing | 83 | \$23,462 | 152 | \$27,387 | 174 | \$32,076 |
| Trade, Utilities & Transportation | 292 | \$17,455 | 347 | \$23,611 | 347 | \$24,172 |
| Information | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Financial Activities | 39 | \$14,775 | 45 | \$28,562 | 42 | \$30,232 |
| Professional and Business Services | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Educational and Health Services | 43 | \$19,924 | 143 | \$18,761 | 151 | \$18,430 |
| Leisure and Hospitality | 121 | \$8,927 | 83 | \$9,922 | 80 | \$9,765 |
| Other Services | * | * | 11 | \$13,169 | 12 | \$15,175 |
| Government | 406 | \$21,948 | 449 | \$27,297 | 451 | \$26,821 |

| Per Capita Income | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Lewis County | \$23,292 | \$25,229 | \$24,488 | \$26,511 | \$28,192 | \$29,178 | \$28,618 | \$32,934 | \$40,629 | \$39,029 |
| 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 |



This county is served by the office listed below:
 Idaho Department of Labor
 305 N. State St.
 Grangeville, ID 83530-0550 Ph: (208) 983-0440

labor.idaho.gov