



# Nez Perce County

IDAHO  
DEPT. OF LABOR

January 2018

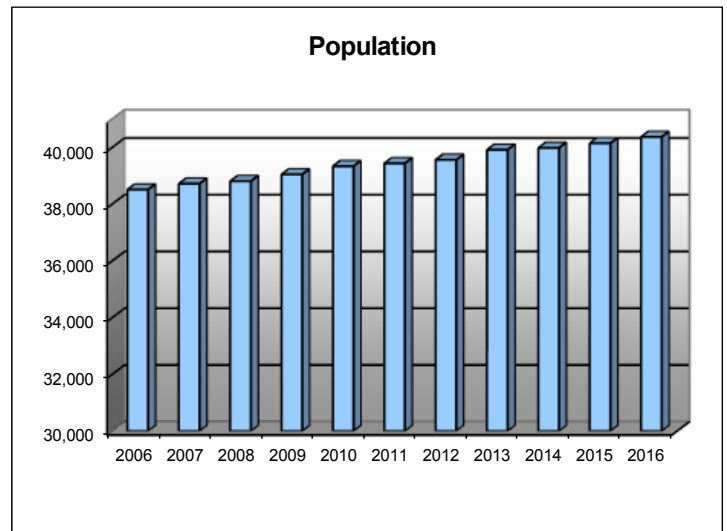
## Workforce Trends

### Population

Nez Perce County's population grew 5 percent from 38,513 in 2006 to 40,369 in 2016 while the U.S. population grew 8 percent and Idaho's population grew 13 percent. Slow job growth reduced migration into the county while an aging population reduced the birth rate.

Nez Perce is closely tied to Asotin County, Washington. Many Asotin County residents work in Lewiston. Asotin County grew 4 percent from 21,133 in 2006 to 22,306 in 2016.

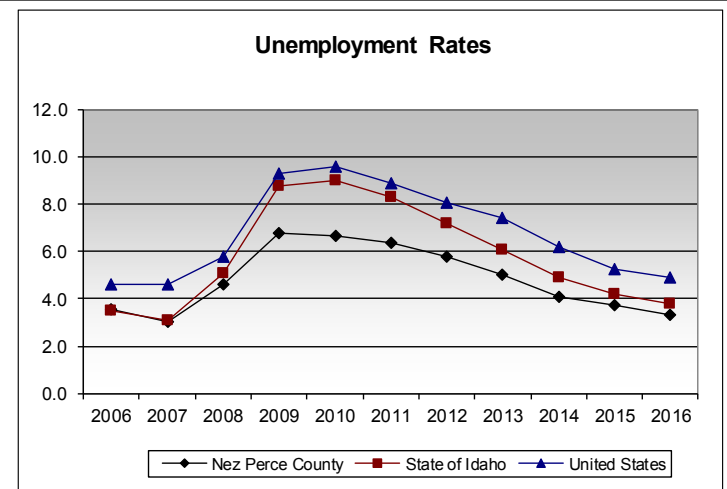
The Nez Perce County seat, Lewiston, had a 2016 population of 32,872. The population in Lapwai was 1,148, in Culdesac 376, and in Peck 198. Clarkston's population was 7,341.



### Labor Force & Employment

Nez Perce County is a regional hub for retail, health care, media, government and transportation. Lewiston has the largest airports in north central Idaho. It also is Idaho's only seaport. Barges regularly travel the Snake and Columbia rivers from Lewiston to the ocean. Asotin, Clearwater, Columbia, Idaho and Lewis counties rely on the Lewiston area for goods and services unavailable locally. In addition, many residents of neighboring counties work in the Lewiston area.

Lewiston is home to Lewis-Clark State College, a four-year school also offering professional-technical training programs. Its enrollment hovers around 4,600. Nez Perce County's largest employer is Clearwater Paper Inc., whose 1,400 employees make tissue and paperboard. The Vista Outdoors bullet plants in Lewiston employ over 1,200 people. St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center, the heart of Lewiston's



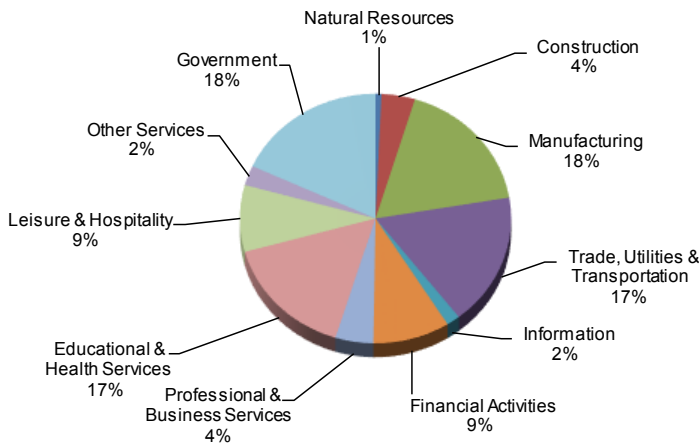
bustling medical community, employs about 1,000 while the Cambria Health (Regence BlueShield) center in Lewiston employs 450 and Lewis-Clark State College employs over 700. The Nez Perce Tribe employs 500 at its Lapwai headquarters and another 250 at its casino resort near Lewiston.

The county has experienced exceptional growth in manufacturing. Big boosts in the last five years include openings of the Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories plant, now employing 400, and the Howell Munition's ammunition plant, employing more than 300.

Labor Force	Dec 16	Dec 17
Civilian Labor Force	21,214	21,564
Total Employment	20,579	17,589
Unemployed	635	565
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.0	2.6
State of Idaho % Unemployed	3.6	2.9
U.S. % Unemployed	4.7	4.1

Labor Force	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Civilian Labor Force	19,025	19,011	18,560	18,703	20,086	20,083	19,866	20,231	20,373	20,666	20,884
Unemployment	678	574	854	1,269	1,344	1,278	1,144	1,011	827	773	700
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.6	3.0	4.6	6.8	6.7	6.4	5.8	5.0	4.1	3.7	3.3
Employment	18,347	18,437	17,706	17,435	18,742	18,805	18,722	19,220	19,546	19,893	20,184

## Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2016



City of Lewiston
Clearwater Paper Inc.
Howell Munitions (ammunition manufacturer)
Lewis-Clark State College
Lewiston Independent School District 1
Nez Perce County
Nez Perce Tribe (including casino resort)
Northwest Children's Home Inc.
Regence BlueShield (insurance)
Schweitzer Engineering (manufacturing)
St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center
Vista Outdoor (ammunition manufacturer)

## Economic Development

Valley Vision is a nonprofit organization fostering the economic development of the Lewis-Clark Valley. Valley Vision concentrates its recruiting efforts on projects that contribute to economic diversification and increased household earnings.

Another major player is the 3,600-member Nez Perce Tribe, headquartered in Lapwai. The tribe also plays a role in development of Clearwater, Idaho and Lewis counties.

Occupational Wages*	Entry Wage	Median Wage
Accountants	\$20.30	\$27.29
Team Assemblers**	\$10.35	\$13.20
Bookkeepers	\$12.84	\$18.63
Carpenters, Journey-Level	\$14.68	\$21.54
Cashiers	\$8.24	\$10.14
Computer User Support Specialists	\$10.73	\$16.51
Customer Service Representatives	\$11.20	\$15.15
Dental & Health Care Assistants	\$15.97	\$17.95
Janitors	\$8.62	\$11.56
Nurses, Registered	\$25.45	\$30.11
Salespersons, Retail	\$9.10	\$11.50
Secretaries	\$10.21	\$14.30
Truck Drivers, Heavy	\$16.10	\$18.54

\* Additional occupational wage data can be found on the Idaho Department of Labor website at [lmi.idaho.gov](http://lmi.idaho.gov).

\*\* North Idaho Wages

	2006		2015		2016	
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
<b>Total Covered Wages</b>	20,759	\$31,598	20,778	\$39,127	21,354	\$39,937
<b>Agriculture</b>	202	\$41,373	192	\$54,594	181	\$47,267
<b>Mining</b>	105	\$47,738	83	\$62,563	*	*
<b>Construction</b>	886	\$35,012	779	\$40,616	850	\$41,114
<b>Manufacturing</b>	2,623	\$43,273	3,726	\$55,741	3,946	\$56,837
<b>Trade, Utilities and Transportation</b>	4,458	\$28,829	3,780	\$33,916	3,804	\$34,814
<b>Information</b>	397	\$26,358	362	\$33,505	361	\$33,322
<b>Financial Activities</b>	1,395	\$34,609	1,240	\$52,061	1,231	\$54,727
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	1,332	\$44,721	991	\$32,530	1,001	\$33,186
<b>Educational and Health Services</b>	3,309	\$29,032	3,472	\$38,222	3,547	\$39,426
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	1,776	\$12,181	1,822	\$14,587	1,934	\$14,824
<b>Other Services</b>	577	\$19,395	540	\$22,721	561	\$23,619
<b>Government</b>	3,702	\$33,067	3,791	\$39,386	3,848	\$39,534

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<b>Nez Perce County</b>	\$32,547	\$34,188	\$33,600	\$34,289	\$35,254	\$35,911	\$36,742	\$37,719	\$39,317	\$40,723
<b>State of Idaho</b>	\$32,580	\$33,031	\$31,436	\$31,726	\$33,296	\$34,695	\$35,720	\$37,186	\$38,848	\$39,470
<b>United States</b>	\$39,821	\$41,082	\$39,376	\$40,277	\$42,461	\$44,282	\$44,493	\$46,494	\$48,451	\$49,246

Information provided by Bureau of Economic Analysis

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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.