



Northern Idaho

IDAHO
DEPT. OF LABOR

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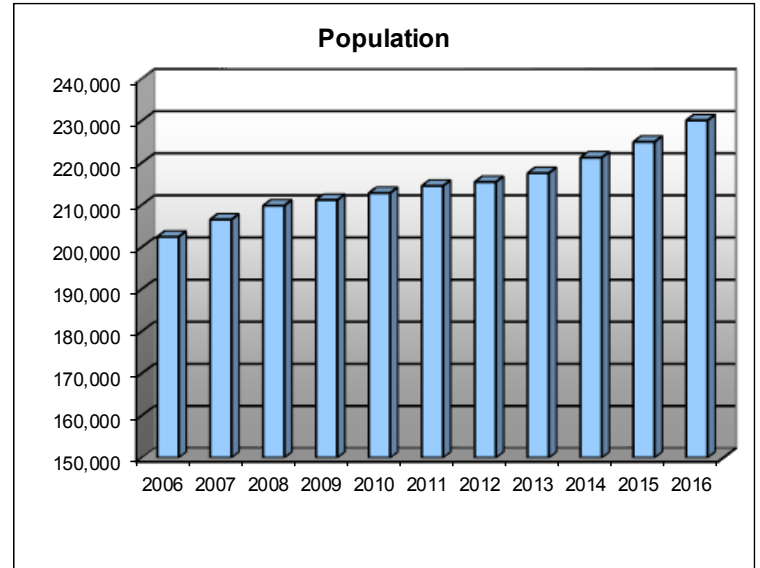
Workforce Trends

Population

With its stunning scenery, great fishing and hunting opportunities and pleasant lifestyle, the Panhandle has attracted thousands of new residents since the early 1970s. Over the last few decades, many retirees have chosen to move to the region, joined by many workers during periods of job growth.

While the U.S. population grew 8.3 percent between 2006 and 2016, Idaho's population grew faster at 14.6 percent and the Panhandle's at 13.6 percent to 230,072. Kootenai County's population grew 19.1 percent to 154,311; Boundary County 10.9 percent to 11,681 and Bonner County 6 percent to 42,536. Benewah County fell 1.8 percent to 9,092 and Shoshone County's population 4.3 percent to 12,452.

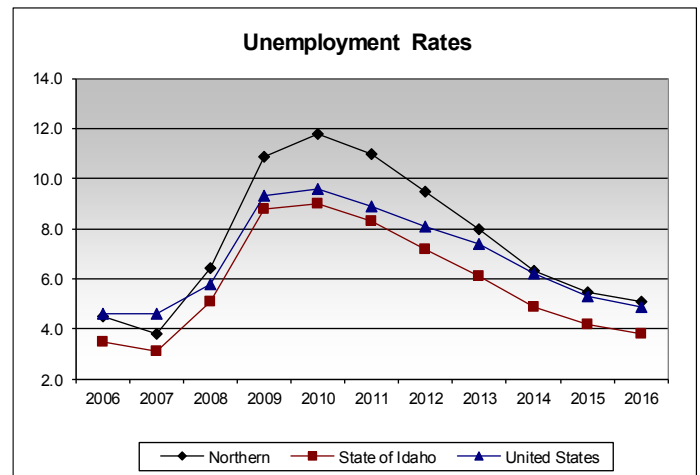
The largest cities are Coeur d'Alene at 49,122 in 2015, Post Falls at 30,453, Hayden at 14,133, Sandpoint at 7,853, Rathdrum at 7,538, Bonners Ferry at 2,549, St. Maries at 2,325, Dalton Gardens at 2,386, Kellogg at 2,069 and Priest River at 1,758.



Labor Force & Employment

The Panhandle economy has traditionally relied on natural resources — forest products, mining and agriculture. Over the last 25 years, it has successfully diversified and grown. Today, a variety of manufacturing, health care and tourism are major drivers of the region's economy. In addition, five large call centers and several corporate headquarters provide hundreds of jobs. Rapid population growth also bolstered construction, retail, services and health care over the last 10 years.

After four years of remarkable job growth, the Panhandle's unemployment rate fell to a record low 2.7 percent in May 2007. Since then, U.S. housing starts have fallen to a 25-year low, resulting in the loss of nearly 1,400 logging and mill jobs. Many other sectors also experienced job losses in the recession. Unemployment peaked in the Panhandle at 17 percent in late 2009 and again in August 2010. The last time it



was that high was March 1987.

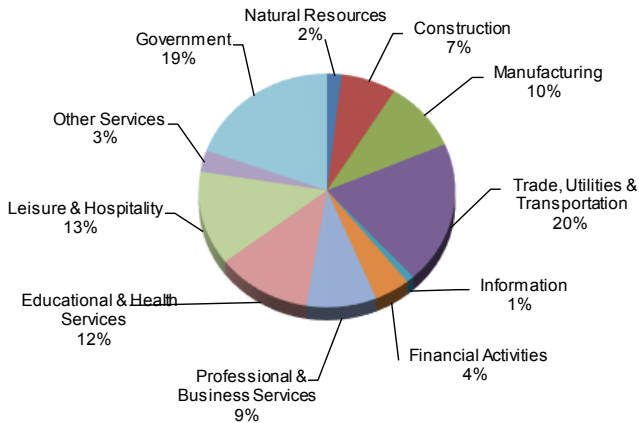
Despite the slowdown, most manufacturers have held their own. In the last 20 years, dozens of manufacturers have moved from California to the Panhandle for its low business costs and excellent business climate.

Tourism plays a major role in the Panhandle. Its largest employers are the Coeur d'Alene Resort, the casino hotels of the Kootenai and Coeur d'Alene tribes, Schweitzer and Silver Mountain ski resorts and Silverwood Theme Park.

Labor Force	Dec 16	Dec 17
Civilian Labor Force	107,018	109,550
Total Employment	101,845	105,191
Unemployed	5,173	4,359
Panhandle Idaho % Unemployed	4.8	4.0
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	103,042	104,580	106,048	106,817	103,409	103,373	102,178	101,984	102,922	104,630	106,515
Unemployment	4,630	3,975	6,806	11,607	12,196	11,357	9,700	8,158	6,517	5,741	5,423
% of Labor Force Unemployed	4.5	3.8	6.4	10.9	11.8	11.0	9.5	8.0	6.3	5.5	5.1
Employment	98,411	100,605	99,242	95,210	91,213	92,016	92,479	93,826	96,405	98,889	101,092

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2016



Covered Employment & Wages

A favorable business climate and growing customer base help Panhandle businesses prosper. The number of private-sector employers grew 30 percent from 6,151 in 2000 to 7,976 in 2008. Growth statewide was 27 percent. The Panhandle has lost 951 private employers between 2008 and 2013 for a 12 percent decrease. The number has been steadily increasing since 2013 to 7,462 in 2016.

Overall, northern Idaho's economy has greatly diversified over the past decade. A service-based economy is focusing more on health care, retail, manufacturing, and business support services. The shift in nature of the firms in northern Idaho has created a more stable employment and economic base.

In addition to private-sector employers, the region has 83 federal, 70 state and 248 local government agencies including five community hospitals. There are 12 employers through the Kootenai and Coeur d'Alene Indian tribes.

Major Employers

Bonner General Hospital	Kimball Office
Center Partners	US Silver
Coeur d'Alene Tribe	Kootenai Health
Coldwater Creek	Litehouse
Dave Smith Motors	North Idaho College
Esterline Advanced Input Systems	Wal-Mart
Hagadone Corporation	Silverwood Theme Park
Hecla Mining	U.S. Bank

North Idaho Occupational Wages*	Entry Wage	Median Wage
Bookkeeper	\$11.05	\$16.55
Cashier	\$8.27	\$9.57
Childcare Worker	\$8.32	\$9.52
Computer Support Specialist	\$12.45	\$18.94
Construction Laborer	\$10.67	\$16.19
Customer Service Rep	\$8.77	\$10.97
Dental Assitant	\$13.44	\$16.92
Janitor & Cleaner	\$8.91	\$11.19
Laborer & Material Handler	\$9.45	\$12.78
Office Clerk	\$9.85	\$13.53
Registered Nurse	\$23.28	\$32.79
Salesperson, Retail	\$9.03	\$11.50
Elementary School Teacher	\$34,052	\$47,370
Secondary School Teacher	\$36,307	\$51,166
Secretary	\$10.91	\$14.91
Truck Drivers, Heavy	\$14.72	\$19.39

• Additional occupational wage data can be found on

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
Total Covered Wages	80,537	\$29,772	80,552	\$35,530	83,019	\$36,373
Agriculture	1,605	\$33,145	1,009	\$38,093	1,041	\$38,648
Mining	745	\$57,130	1,045	\$86,587	961	\$91,623
Construction	7,953	\$31,487	4,996	\$38,011	5,421	\$39,092
Manufacturing	8,211	\$35,387	8,051	\$42,703	8,171	\$44,118
Trade, Utilities & Transportation	15,716	\$30,180	15,871	\$33,955	16,234	\$34,836
Information	1,242	\$35,369	813	\$54,325	828	\$57,054
Financial Activities	3,672	\$39,728	3,534	\$47,117	3,640	\$48,769
Professional and Business Services	7,593	\$31,674	6,854	\$36,074	7,191	\$36,747
Educational and Health Services	7,213	\$28,468	9,694	\$33,090	10,027	\$34,375
Leisure and Hospitality	9,765	\$13,291	10,665	\$16,200	11,015	\$16,801
Other Services	1,961	\$20,541	1,965	\$25,119	2,012	\$26,710
Government	14,862	\$32,367	16,056	\$41,088	16,480	\$41,326

Per Capita Income	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Panhandle Idaho	\$30,167	\$31,662	\$31,297	\$32,130	\$33,043	\$33,827	\$34,884	\$35,429	\$37,230	\$38,193
State of Idaho	\$32,580	\$33,031	\$31,436	\$31,726	\$33,296	\$34,695	\$35,720	\$37,186	\$38,848	\$39,470
United States	\$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