



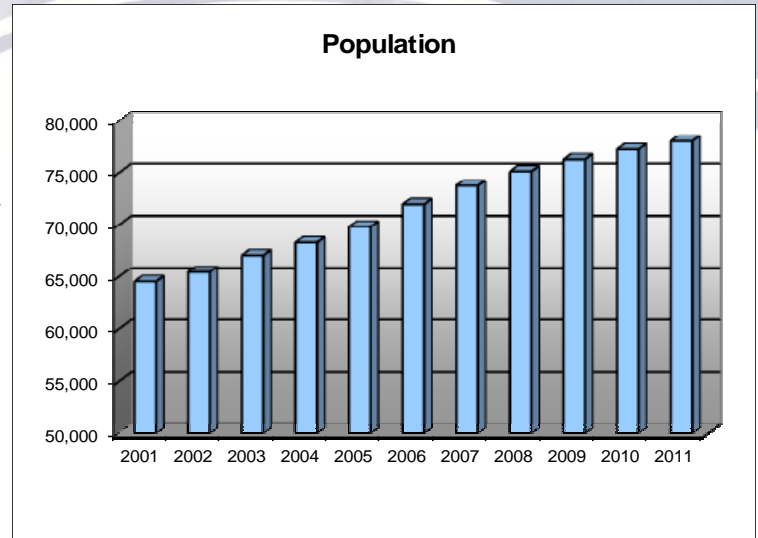
Twin Falls County

April 2012

Work Force Trends

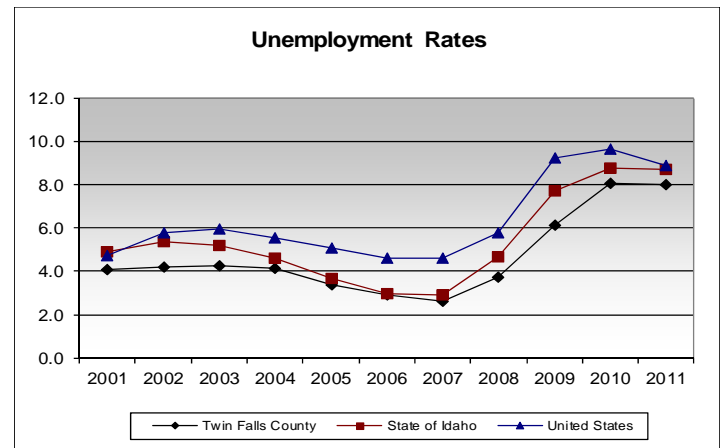
Population

The population of Twin Falls County has grown steadily from 64,556 in 2001 to 78,005 in 2011, a 20.8 percent increase that preserves its ranking as the sixth most populous county in the state. It is a retail hub for south central Idaho and northern Nevada, drawing on a consumer base of 250,000. Abundant natural resources and recreational opportunities attract visitors and residents alike. The city of Twin Falls is the county seat with a population of 44,125. It lies on the edge of the spectacular Snake River Canyon spanned by the Perrine Bridge, one of the nation's few legal take-offs for BASE jumpers. A path winds along the canyon rim adjacent to retail shops, restaurants and a clubby event center with a bird's eye view of golf courses. World-renown Shoshone Falls is just two-miles up the canyon. Solid job prospects and a moderate climate for retirees sustain a steady growth curve for Twin Falls County.



Labor Force & Employment

Although the economy remains heavily tied to agriculture, the county has diversified. Community partnerships landed Dell customer service jobs in 2002 and replaced them in 2010 with jobs at C3 Customer Contact Channels. Manufacturing jobs with Jayco RV have brought in feeder companies. The most recent announcement of a \$128 million investment by Chobani Yogurt will bring 400 jobs to the valley with plans for future expansion. The investment brought relief to stressed dairies suffering from extended periods of low milk prices and higher feed costs. Housing permits peaked at over 650 in 2005, falling just below 100 in 2011 and current year activity already outpacing last year. Unemployment peaked at 6.9 percent in 1992, gradually fell to a record low of 2.6 percent in 2007 and topped at 8.1 percent in 2010. The area lagged going into the latest recession, not seeing job losses until well into 2008. Twin Falls County remains below the national and state unemployment rates even as the civilian labor force has steadily grown. Again, the region is out performing the state as it did during the 2001



recession. Over the last decade, Twin Falls County posted a strong gain in retail and service jobs as big box retailers converged on the northern entrance to the city and its main artery. A Walmart super center opened in summer 2009 along with two hotels and a long-awaited new high school. The new regional medical center opened in 2011 with strong prospects for additional medical office and retail development in its vicinity. The College of Southern Idaho's new Health and Human Science building opened to students in 2010. A Renewable Energy building is about to break ground while expansions are ongoing at the Fine Arts building. The employment outlook for Twin Falls County remains strong.

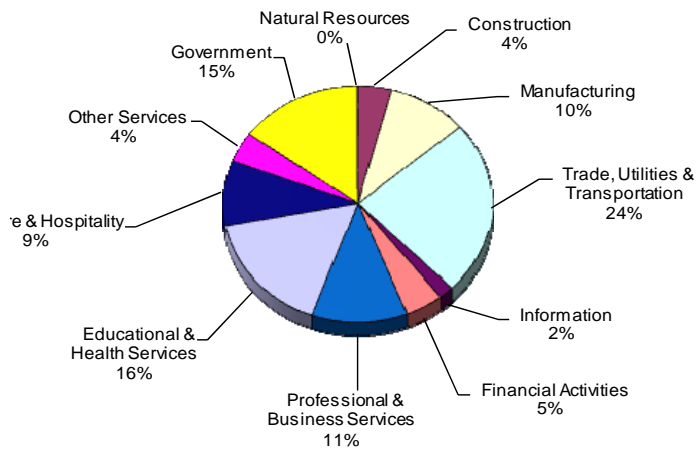
Labor Force	Mar 11	Mar 12
Civilian Labor Force	39,131	38,956
Total Employment	36,136	36,070
Unemployed	2,995	2,887
% of Labor Force Unemployed	7.7	7.4
State of Idaho % Unemployed	8.7	7.9
U.S. % Unemployed	8.9	8.2

Labor Force	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Civilian Labor Force	34,434	35,432	35,482	36,071	36,633	37,935	37,687	38,309	38,787	38,556	39,135
Unemployment	1,410	1,494	1,502	1,494	1,240	1,098	981	1,436	2,374	3,119	3,144
% of Labor Force Unemployed	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.1	3.4	2.9	2.6	3.7	6.1	8.1	8.0
Employment	33,024	33,938	33,980	34,578	35,394	36,837	36,706	36,873	36,414	35,438	35,991

Prepared by Jan Roeser, Regional Labor Economist, Idaho Department of Labor • 420 Falls Ave, Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

Phone: (208) 735-2500, ext. 3639 • email: jan.roeser@labor.idaho.gov • Labor Market Information website: lmi.idaho.gov

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2010



Wages & Income

With a drop from 2009 to 2010 in average employment of 2 percent, Twin Falls County wages rose insignificantly year-over-year remaining low. Per capita income increased 37 percent in the past decade but remains below the state by 3.4 percent and way below the national per capita income by 22.4 percent. Twin Falls County ranked 20th among Idaho's 44 counties' in per capita income due in part to the preponderance of lower paying retail, service and seasonal farm jobs. The average wage at \$28,921 in 2010 remains 16 percent below the state average of \$34,081. The economic downturn hit hard with a 4.5 percent drop in per capita income from 2008-2009 caused by the sharp downturn in investments and farm income. National companies locating into the area will likely put upward pressure on wages.

Major Employers

Amalgamated Sugar	Independent Meat
Bridgeview Estates	Jayco
C3 CustomerContactChannels	Kroger aka Fred Meyer & Smith's
College of Southern Idaho	Personnel Plus
ConAgra	Seneca
Costco	Transystems
Gem State Staffing	St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center
Glanbia NA	Walmart

Occupational Wages*

Average Wages

Team Assemblers	\$13.00
Teachers	\$52,000.00
Social Workers	\$19.00
Dental Assistants	\$12.75
Registered Nurse	\$28.50
LPNs	\$17.00
Drivers	\$13.00
Cashiers	\$9.75
Bookkeepers	\$11.00
Bank Tellers	\$12.00
Landscapers	\$12.00
College Instructors	\$39,000.00
Framers	\$10.00
Forklift Operators	\$14.00
Electricians	\$19.00
Maintenance Mechanics	\$15.00
Milker	\$11.00
Farm Laborers	\$10.41

* 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	29,606	\$22,343	33,133	\$28,517	32,501	\$28,921
Agriculture	1,515	\$20,493	1,943	\$26,711	1,893	\$27,322
Mining	35	\$20,727	34	\$35,521	24	\$31,789
Construction	1,326	\$23,130	1,338	\$29,862	1,253	\$32,207
Manufacturing	3,511	\$26,484	3,171	\$34,378	3,021	\$36,019
Trade, Utilities & Transportation	7,018	\$21,915	7,283	\$27,868	7,414	\$28,732
Information	458	\$24,878	571	\$30,009	554	\$31,874
Financial Activities	1,177	\$29,125	1,437	\$38,556	1,350	\$39,438
Professional and Business Services	3,152	\$19,516	4,194	\$25,478	3,604	\$23,970
Educational and Health Services	2,757	\$24,381	4,974	\$32,593	5,142	\$32,515
Leisure and Hospitality	2,697	\$9,175	2,732	\$12,268	2,751	\$12,641
Other Services	851	\$17,985	1,007	\$22,415	1,014	\$22,706
Government	5,111	\$26,970	4,450	\$31,969	4,480	\$31,915

Per Capita Income	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Twin Falls County	\$22,415	\$24,880	\$25,373	\$25,361	\$27,264	\$28,380	\$29,369	\$31,194	\$32,218	\$30,773
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

Information provided by U.S. Census Bureau



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

labor.idaho.gov

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 specific publication are available by contacting the Idaho Department of Labor. 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 TTY Idaho Relay Service.