

# Washington County

IDAHO  
DEPT. OF LABOR

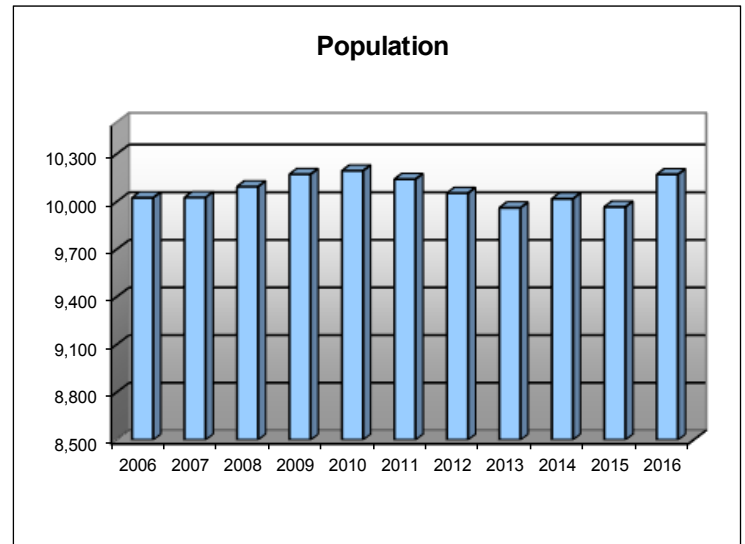
September 2017

## Workforce Trends

### Population

Washington County ranks 29<sup>th</sup> in area among Idaho's 44 counties. Its population began to decline in 1999 as some residents left to seek jobs in more diversified economies. But after the 2001 recession, the population began growing consistently, albeit slowly, into 2010. Since then the population began to decline again. In 2014, the county saw the first population increase since 2010, gaining 67. In 2016, the county experienced a 1.5 percent growth, adding 147 people resulting in a population of 10,172. The current level is the highest since 2010.

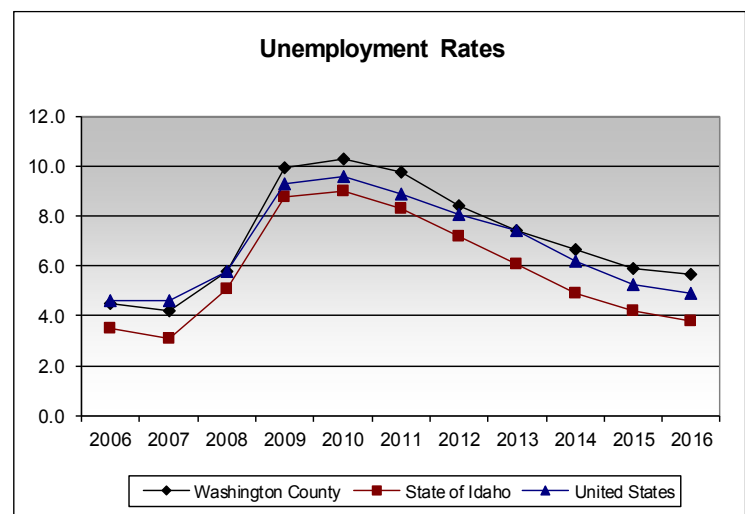
Weiser is the largest city in the county. In 2016 the population increased by 104 to 5,397 people.



### Labor Force & Employment

With the exception of 2009, when it gained 276 people, Washington County's labor force has either declined or remained roughly stable over the past decade. Between 2015 and 2016, the labor force declined by 21 people to 4,557. The county's unemployment rate continued to decline from its peak in 2010 to 5.7 percent in 2016.

Over the past year it has been a mixture of jobs growth and job loss as the county only gained an average of 4 covered jobs in 2016. There was growth in manufacturing but it could not offset the losses in health care. The losses were not from just one firm but a decline of a few jobs in most of the businesses. Construction continued to lose jobs in 2016.



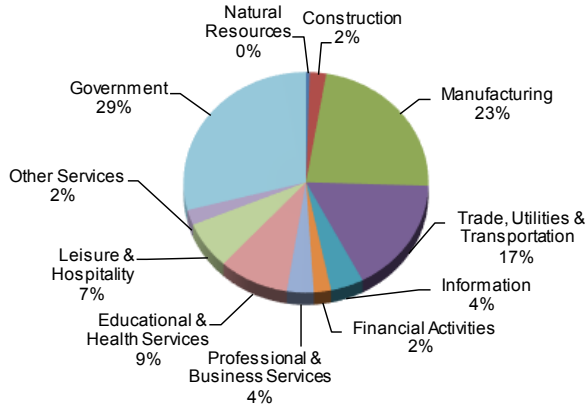
For the decade though, the county is down 229 covered jobs. Construction led the way, losing 86 jobs. Six other sectors lost jobs ranging from 35 in financial activities to 58 in leisure and hospitality.

Over the decade, agriculture added 26 jobs closely followed by government with 24. Educational and health services added 11 jobs and other services jobs are up 19.

Labor Force	Aug 16	Aug 17
Civilian Labor Force	4,543	4,468
Total Employment	4,287	4,307
Unemployed	256	161
% of Labor Force Unemployed	5.6	3.6
State of Idaho % Unemployed	3.8	2.9
U.S. % Unemployed	4.9	4.4

Labor Force	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Civilian Labor Force	4,953	4,687	4,646	4,922	4,725	4,733	4,783	4,767	4,589	4,578	4,557
Unemployment	223	198	269	488	488	462	403	353	305	269	258
% of Labor Force Unemployed	4.5	4.2	5.8	9.9	10.3	9.8	8.4	7.4	6.7	5.9	5.7
Employment	4,729	4,489	4,376	4,433	4,238	4,271	4,380	4,414	4,284	4,308	4,299

## Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2016



### Per Capita Income, Nonfarm Jobs & Wages

Washington County reported an increase of nearly \$300 in its per capita income in 2014, bringing its ranking to 22nd among the 44 counties.

Government, including public education, continued to make up the largest portion of nonfarm employment with 29 percent. Manufacturing was next with 23 percent followed by trade, utilities and transportation at 17 percent.

Covered wages saw a small uptick in covered wages, \$763. However, wages have increased 24 percent over the decade. Information covered wages jumped 86 percent since 2006 to have a dramatic impact on total covered wages.

### Major Employers

Appleton Produce
City of Weiser
Champion Home Builders
Hometown Ford
Cambridge School District
Weiser Memorial Hospital
Ridley's
Washington County
Midvale School District
Weiser School District

Southwest Idaho Occupational Wages*	Entry Wage	Median Wage
Bank Teller	\$10.53	\$12.46
Bookkeeper	\$12.19	\$16.80
Retail Salesperson	\$8.35	\$10.91
Nursing Assistants	\$10.38	\$12.19
Truck Driver	\$12.76	\$17.36
Farm Equipment Operators	\$11.40	\$15.76
Agricultural Workers	\$8.11	\$8.94
Shipping & Receiving Clerks	\$10.01	\$13.22
Construction Laborer	\$9.87	\$13.91
Carpenter	\$12.38	\$15.26

\*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>	2,991	\$24,181	2,759	\$29,222	2,763	\$29,985
<b>Agriculture</b>	238	\$18,118	277	\$24,951	264	\$27,094
<b>Mining</b>	*	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
<b>Construction</b>	140	\$23,287	68	\$30,916	54	\$30,287
<b>Manufacturing</b>	619	\$27,485	527	\$30,778	583	\$30,480
<b>Trade, Utilities &amp; Transportation</b>	468	\$23,812	415	\$31,234	417	\$32,909
<b>Information</b>	109	\$32,528	98	\$59,675	110	\$60,495
<b>Financial Activities</b>	86	\$29,039	56	\$37,889	51	\$31,585
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	128	\$25,157	90	\$29,304	86	\$30,259
<b>Educational and Health Services</b>	221	\$22,753	265	\$22,225	231	\$23,716
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	232	\$8,565	167	\$10,812	175	\$11,063
<b>Other Services</b>	36	\$28,716	57	\$20,292	55	\$23,423
<b>Government</b>	713	\$27,026	742	\$31,076	737	\$31,187

Per Capita Income	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
<b>Washington County</b>	\$37,505	\$36,924	\$35,566	\$33,955	\$34,896	\$36,181	\$41,840	\$41,123	\$43,924	\$45,902
<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

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

This county is served by the office listed below:  
Idaho Department of Labor  
501 N. 16th St., Suite 107  
Payette, ID 83661-0179 Ph: (208) 642-9361

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

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