



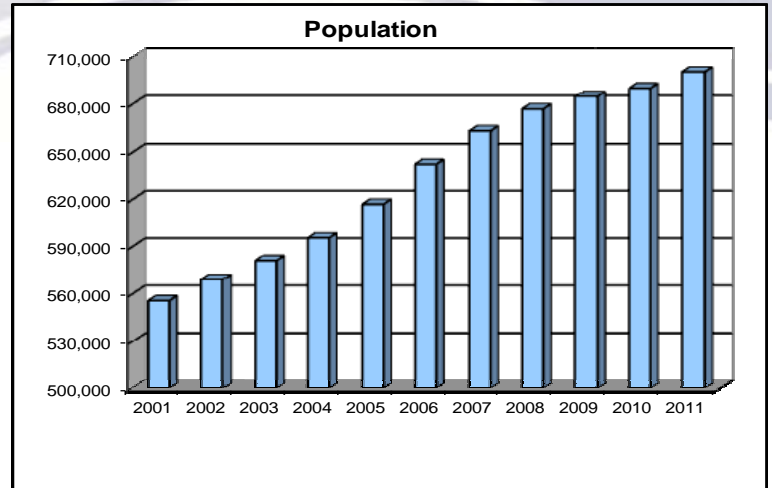
Southwestern Idaho

April 2012

Work Force Trends

Population

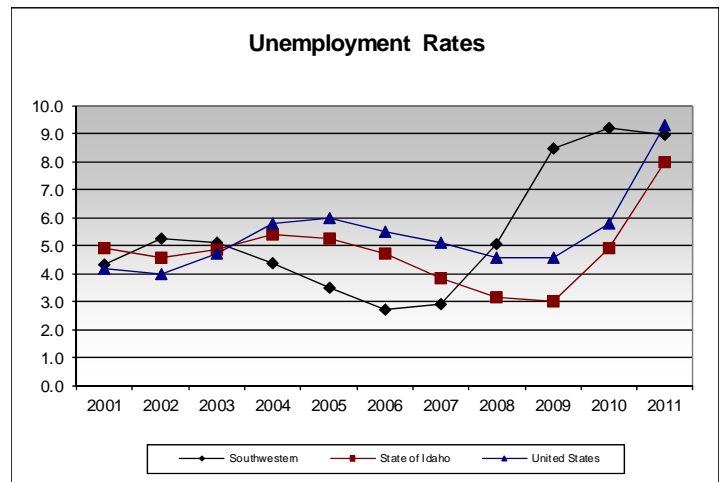
Southwestern Idaho is the largest of six regions in both square miles and population. Its 10 counties run from Adams and Valley counties in the north, south to Owyhee County, the second largest county in land area, to Elmore County and Mountain Home Air Force Base on the east. Transfers on and off the base constantly change the demography of Elmore County, which also draws military retirees making Mountain Home their last assignment. Ada and Canyon counties claim 37 percent of the state's population at 593,000. Ada is the larger with just under 401,000 residents, over twice the size of Canyon County. The population slowed as the number of people relocating from all over the country dropped significantly. The loss of migration was due largely to poor economic conditions and the lack of job opportunities in the region.



Labor Force & Employment

Southwestern Idaho's labor force grew rapidly in the mid-2000s. The region's unemployment rate hovered at or below full employment of 4 percent until late 2008 when the recession hit. The average annual unemployment rate for 2011 was 9.4 percent, down from 9.8 percent in 2010.

In 2010 nonfarm jobs continued to decline, falling over 7,000, or 2.5 percent. Natural resources, education and health care were the only industries to see job growth. Natural resources rose 7 percent, and education and health care were up 3 percent, generating just over 1,000 new jobs combined. The total number of jobs lost from the declining industries was over 8,000. Construction continued to be one of the big losers during 2010, declining by over 1,100 to 13,600. The financial activities also declined by 1,100 to 13,800. Due to declining state and local revenues stemming from the economic downturn, government lost nearly 1,900 jobs from 2009 to 2010. Leisure and hospitality and professional and business services both experienced losses of 2 percent, totaling 1,300 jobs.



The year ended with good news in the technology sector. Micron provided employee bonuses, and Hewlett-Packard lifted its temporary ban on pay increases. Manufacturing also received some good news. Scentsy Inc. announced in early 2011 that it would expand operations in the region, creating 175 jobs. While prospects remained in the pipeline, 2011 could provide some healthy economic activity.

The continued job loss in construction underscored the region's over-dependence on population growth for economic prosperity. When growth slowed and investment dried up, the region had nothing to fall back on. Its reliance on high technology compounded the problem.

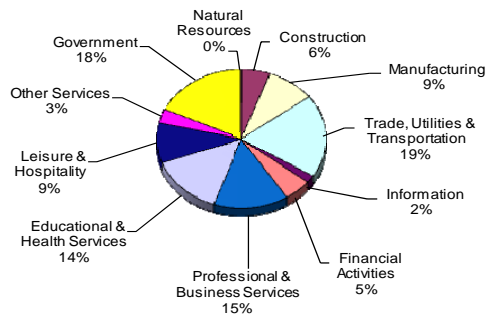
Labor Force	Mar 11	Mar 12
Civilian Labor Force	331,812	337,768
Total Employment	302,836	311,429
Unemployed	28,976	26,339
% of Labor Force Unemployed	8.7	7.8
State of Idaho % Unemployed	8.7	7.9
U.S. % Unemployed	8.9	8.2

Labor Force	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Civilian Labor Force	282,433	283,256	286,200	288,326	300,256	311,941	317,596	319,429	316,366	319,976	323,600
Unemployment	12,173	14,851	14,693	12,611	10,460	8,491	9,186	16,194	26,794	29,448	29,100
% of Labor Force Unemployed	4.3	5.2	5.1	4.4	3.5	2.7	2.9	5.1	8.5	9.2	9.0
Employment	270,260	268,405	271,507	275,715	289,796	303,450	308,410	303,235	289,572	290,529	294,500

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Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2010



Per Capita Income & Employment

Southwestern Idaho has the highest per capita income of the state's six regions at \$33,506 in 2009, 5.2 percent above the state per capita income but 15.4 percent below the national figure. Wages are relatively high in Ada and Canyon counties, which account for a large majority of population and employment in the region. The high wages in these two counties translate into high wages for the region as a whole.

But since 2007, per capita income has declined in the region. Although per capita income was still 19.7 percent higher than it was a decade earlier.

Nearly all industries saw increases in average wages despite a decline in average employment. This is likely due to the layoff of part-time, support workers, whose job duties were absorbed by full-time staff.

Major Private Employers

Albertsons	J R Simplot Co
Amalgamated Sugar Co	Kroger - Fred Meyer
Blue Cross of Idaho	Marathon Cheese Corp
Bogus Basin	Micron Technology Inc
Brimdage Mountain	Qwest Corp
Citicorp Credit Services	Shore Lodge
Darmondy - McDonalds	St Alphonsus Reg Medical Ctr
DirecTV	St Lukes Reg Medical Ctr
Fry Foods	T Moblie
Hewlett Packard Co	Wal-Mart
Idaho Power Co	Woodgrain Millwork

Occupational Wages*

Entry Level Wage

Medical Assistants	\$11.97
Waiters and Waitresses	\$7.83
Structural Metal Fabricators and Fitters	\$13.70
Customer Service Representatives	\$9.83
Electricians	\$15.29
Construction Laborers	\$10.46
Team Assemblers	\$9.02
Registered Nurse	\$23.23
Home Health Aides	\$8.21
Truck Drivers, Heavy	\$13.09
Exec Secretaries & Admin Assistants	\$13.02
Welders	\$12.26
Retail Salespersons	\$8.14

* 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	251,394	\$31,267	273,187	\$36,743	270,543	\$37,598
Agriculture	6,113	\$17,661	6,574	\$23,551	6,196	\$25,426
Mining	204	\$36,580	180	\$58,969	187	\$61,927
Construction	17,764	\$30,942	14,683	\$40,982	13,607	\$41,740
Manufacturing	38,678	\$54,481	24,916	\$55,146	24,124	\$59,433
Trade, Utilities & Transportation	51,187	\$28,088	52,093	\$33,159	52,082	\$34,313
Information	4,593	\$37,200	4,710	\$46,712	4,694	\$46,605
Financial Activities	12,122	\$34,350	13,378	\$44,438	13,035	\$44,799
Professional and Business Services	28,275	\$28,610	39,193	\$39,354	38,466	\$39,626
Educational and Health Services	24,251	\$29,341	37,342	\$38,235	39,007	\$38,617
Leisure and Hospitality	21,769	\$10,427	25,236	\$13,725	24,727	\$14,091
Other Services	6,649	\$20,650	7,519	\$24,151	7,444	\$24,428
Government	39,788	\$29,615	47,364	\$39,197	46,975	\$39,390

Per Capita Income	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Southwestern Idaho	\$28,132	\$28,519	\$28,886	\$29,248	\$31,391	\$32,390	\$34,997	\$35,264	\$34,835	\$33,506
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