Bannock County

January 2017

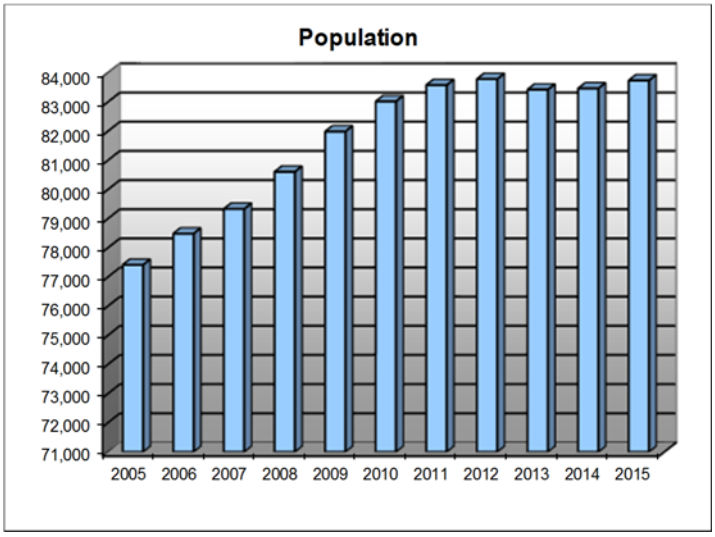
Workforce Trends

IDAHO DEPT. OF LABOR

Population

Access to higher education and the intersection of major north-south and east-west interstate highways fuel Bannock County's population and economic growth. The county has benefited from expanding research and energy related programs at Idaho State University, especially alternative energy research and spin-off business activity. The population rose from 77,419 in 2005 to a record high of 83,792 in 2012. In 2013 population dipped by 362 to 83,471. However, in 2015 the population was 83,744, slightly below the record high.

Pocatello, the county seat, has a population of 54,441 and is the major trade center for southeastern Idaho. Pocatello is home to the Idaho Accelerator Center, the Stephens Performing Arts Center and Pebble Creek Ski Area. Spectacular Lava Hot Springs with geothermal pools adds to year-round tourism appeal.

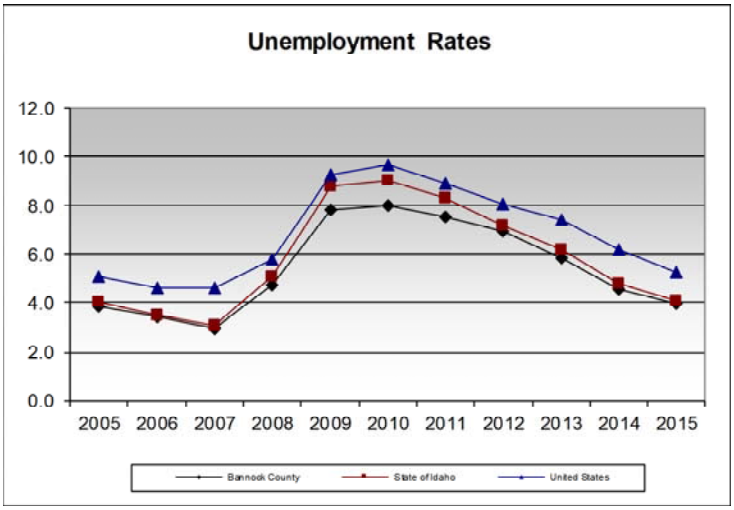


Labor Force & Employment

Bannock County enjoys a diverse and highly skilled labor force with an excellent work ethic. The high quality workforce combined with the area's natural beauty make Bannock County an attractive location to do business.

Bannock County's unemployment rate rose from a record low of 3 percent in 2007 to 8 percent in 2010, the highest rate since 1986. The has annual average unemployment rate has decreased yearly since 2011 to 4 percent in 2015. In 2015, the annual average employment reached a record high of 40,468. The number of unemployed workers continued to decline in 2015 to 1,673. The annual average labor force reached a record high in 2015 at 42,141.

Over the past, the health care has seen an employment boost of 1,100 new jobs, particularly in the home health care sector. Education employment plays a very important role in Bannock County's economy. More than 5,500 jobs are involved in education with Idaho State University providing two-thirds of the jobs. Nearby Idaho National Laboratory draws employees from the area contributing to the areas economy.. Both continue to be major employers. Pocatello and Bannock County, like the rest of southeastern Idaho, benefit from profits generated by local agriculture and food-related manufacturing.



Labor Force	Dec 15	Dec 16
Civilian Labor Force	42,783	42,208
Total Employment	41,287	40,814
Unemployed	1,497	1,394
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.5	3.3
State of Idaho % Unemployed	3.9	3.7
U.S. % Unemployed	5.0	4.7

Labor Force	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Civilian Labor Force	40,549	40,451	41,292	39,594	39,350	41,091	41,041	41,193	41,467	41,614	42,141
Unemployment	1,565	1,394	1,228	1,878	3,087	3,282	3,085	2,859	2,434	1,892	1,673
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.9	3.4	3.0	4.7	7.8	8.0	7.5	6.9	5.9	4.5	4.0
Employment	38,984	39,057	40,063	37,716	36,263	37,809	37,956	38,334	39,033	39,722	40,468

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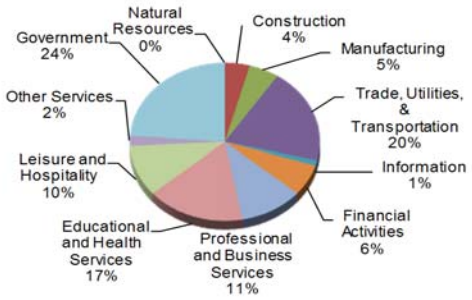
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2015



Major Employers (Private)
Beacon Health Services
Belmont Care Center
Convergys Customer Management
Farmers Insurance
Heinz Frozen Foods
Idaho State University
Portneuf Medical Center
ON Semiconductor, Inc.
Union Pacific Railroad
Varsity Contractors
Wal-Mart

Industry Employment & Wages

The trade and service industries provide nearly half the jobs in Bannock County. This tends to lower average wages since many of these jobs are part time and in the lower-wage food service sector. Government provides a quarter of the jobs, boosted by the presence of Idaho State University, the Idaho Women's Correctional Facility, the FBI Western Region Customer Support Center, the U.S. Courthouse, the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, the Idaho Fish and Game regional office and school districts and municipalities.

Wages in Bannock County are lower than in most of the United States and fall in the middle of all Idaho counties.

Occupational Wages*	Starting Wage
Assemblers/Production Workers	$10.34
Cashiers & Retail Sales	$7.25
Clerks, Information & Record	$8.50
Corrections Officers	$13.91
Customer Service Reps.	$8.48
Home Health & Nurses Aides	$8.13
Janitors and Cleaners	$9.34
Maintenance & Repair Workers	$9.94
Nurses, Registered	$23.78
Secretaries & Admin. Assistants	$10.51
Teachers	$18.84
Food & Beverage Serving Workers	$7.25
Truck Drivers	$10.68

* Additional occupational wage data can be found on the Department of Labor website at *lmi.idaho.gov*.

Covered Employment & Average Annual Wages Per Job for 2005, 2014 & 2015	2005		2014		2015	
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
Total Covered Wages	34,052	$27,815	31,849	$32,860	32,413	$33,797
Agriculture	100	$20,842	100	$27,614	118	$30,306
Mining	*	*	*	*	*	*
Construction	2,174	$28,960	1,293	$34,406	1,371	$36,000
Manufacturing	2,725	$47,647	1,712	$59,227	1,745	$59,954
Trade, Utilities, & Transportation	6,105	$24,981	6,021	$29,415	6,146	$30,399
Information	702	$30,923	412	$35,120	382	$36,430
Financial Activities	1,727	$36,068	1,963	$38,298	2,050	$38,822
Professional and Business Services	4,651	$21,099	3,700	$30,779	3,642	$31,229
Educational and Health Services	3,269	$25,850	5,552	$33,578	5,659	$33,403
Leisure and Hospitality	3,405	$10,020	3,397	$12,560	3,544	$12,944
Other Services	817	$21,273	680	$26,181	709	$27,144
Government	8,352	$33,536	7,009	$38,512	7,036	$41,103

Per Capita Income	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Bannock County	$27,724	$28,719	$29,362	$28,551	$28,684	$29,636	$30,157	$30,945	$32,058	$33,344
State of Idaho	$31,357	$32,580	$33,031	$31,436	$31,727	$33,296	$34,691	$35,703	$37,153	$38,392
United States	$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

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