



# Eastern Idaho

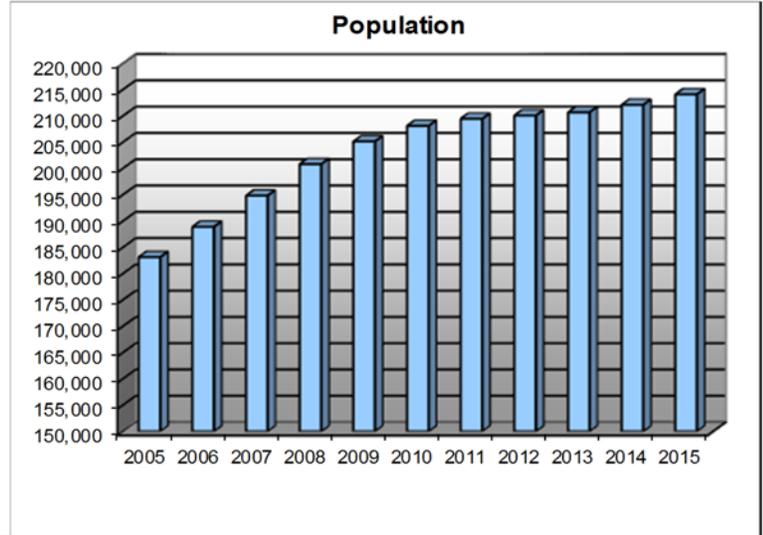
IDAHO  
DEPT. OF LABOR

November 2016

## Workforce Trends

### Population

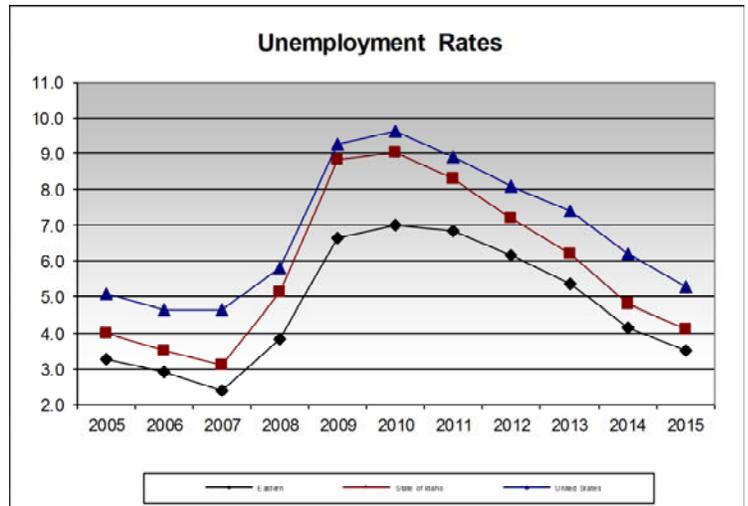
Eastern Idaho consists of nine diverse counties – Bonneville, Butte, Clark, Custer, Fremont, Jefferson, Lemhi, Madison and Teton. The area grew by 30,949 during the decade with Teton, Jefferson, Bonneville and Madison counties experiencing the greatest growth. In 2010 Bonneville, Butte and Jefferson counties were established as the Idaho Falls metropolitan statistical area, which has received national attention for its high growth and low unemployment rates. It is currently one of the fastest-growing metropolitan areas in the nation. Due to a lower cost of living, good workforce and quality recreational opportunities, growth is expected to continue.



### Labor Force & Employment

The unemployment rate for eastern Idaho remained comparatively low prior to 2008 but increase following the the national recession. Economic diversity and the stability provided by the Idaho National Laboratory, one of the state's major employers. Although the region's unemployment rate did increase during the recession to a high of 7.0 percent in 2010, it remained well below the state and national average. In 2015 the unemployment rate was 3.5 percent.

All nine counties are heavily involved in agriculture and related industries like wholesale food and food processing. The city of Idaho Falls is a regional hub for retail and health care. The region is a gateway to popular tourist destinations like Yellowstone National Park, and hundreds of thousands of tourists pass through it annually on U.S. Highway 20. Henry's Lake, known worldwide

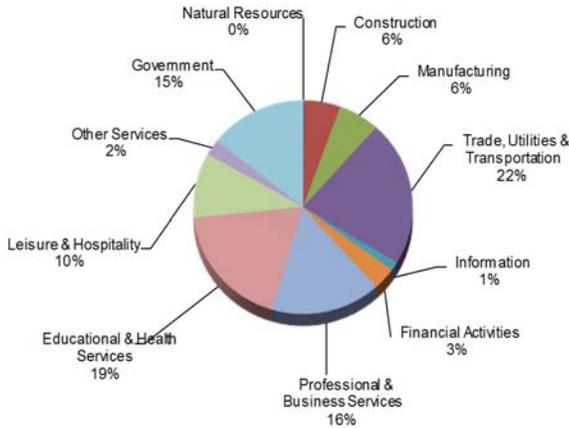


Labor Force	Oct 15	Oct 16
Civilian Labor Force	104,759	105,694
Total Employment	101,397	102,571
Unemployed	3,362	3,123
Eastern Idaho % Unemployed	3.2	3.0
State of Idaho % Unemployed	4.0	3.8
U.S. % Unemployed	5.0	4.9

for its trout fishery, and Borah Peak, the highest point in the state, are some of the attractions. Butte County is home to the world's first nuclear power plant, EBR-1, and Arco, the first city in the world to be lit by nuclear energy. The inventor of television, Philo Farnsworth, was from Jefferson County. High mountains, deep rivers and fertile valleys underscore the area's beauty.

Labor Force	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Civilian Labor Force	93,981	94,945	96,687	97,231	97,122	99,336	99,551	99,640	99,411	100,919	103,966
Unemployment	3,068	2,768	2,325	3,712	6,472	6,978	6,825	6,129	5,340	4,189	3,634
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.3	2.9	2.4	3.8	6.7	7.0	6.9	6.2	5.4	4.2	3.5
Employment	90,913	92,177	94,363	93,519	90,650	92,358	92,726	93,510	94,071	96,730	100,332

## Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2015



## Covered Employers

Average employment increased by nearly 6,500 during the decade, and average wages increased by \$7,262. The larger industries are trade, health and education, government and professional and business services — most are INL jobs. Government includes the local, state and federal departments operating in the region but also hospitals and correctional facilities operated by these governments. Other significant government employers are the federal departments of Energy and Agriculture and the Bureau of Land Management along with the Idaho Fish and Game Department. Construction, although it has declined due to the recession, and leisure and hospitality are also strong.

## Major Employers

Battelle Energy Alliance
Bechtel Bettis
Bechtel BWXT
Brigham Young University Idaho
CH2M-WG Idaho LLC
Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center
Melaleuca, Inc.
Century Link
Wal-Mart

## Occupational Wages\*

## Median Wage

Retail Salespersons	\$9.57
Office Clerks	\$11.63
Truck Drivers, Heavy	\$16.34
General Managers	\$32.72
Cashiers	\$8.12
Customer Service Representatives	\$11.08
Waiters and Waitresses	\$7.97
Registered Nurses	\$25.68
Food Preparation Workers	\$8.50
Construction Laborers	\$12.67
Laborers	\$9.78
Janitors and Cleaners	\$10.23
First-Line Supervisors	\$19.73
Bookkeeping and Accounting Clerks	\$12.34
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	\$9.22

\* 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 2005, 2014 & 2015	2005		2014		2015	
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
Total Covered Wages	78,305	\$30,267	82,190	\$36,470	84,826	\$37,529
Agriculture	2,274	\$22,755	2,465	\$28,809	2,500	\$30,933
Mining	246	\$71,267	229	\$99,818	73	\$105,476
Construction	5,336	\$27,700	4,157	\$37,870	4,473	\$37,912
Manufacturing	4,754	\$27,528	4,863	\$36,544	5,272	\$37,533
Trade, Utilities & Transportation	17,237	\$24,797	18,666	\$31,746	18,973	\$32,731
Information	1,413	\$33,186	1,148	\$36,500	1,095	\$36,312
Financial Activities	2,752	\$30,262	2,660	\$40,230	2,803	\$42,456
Professional and Business Services	15,105	\$47,808	13,678	\$59,780	14,059	\$62,219
Educational and Health Services	9,398	\$31,098	12,136	\$36,005	12,757	\$36,906
Leisure and Hospitality	6,563	\$10,347	8,234	\$13,171	8,556	\$13,775
Other Services	1,808	\$21,105	1,755	\$25,077	1,833	\$26,041
Government	11,419	\$30,128	12,200	\$34,421	12,432	\$35,397

Per Capita Income	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Eastern Idaho	\$26,716	\$28,446	\$29,984	\$30,801	\$29,238	\$29,360	\$31,331	\$32,593	\$32,934	\$33,471
State of Idaho	\$29,815	\$31,945	\$32,952	\$32,854	\$31,392	\$32,050	\$33,544	\$34,846	\$35,641	\$36,734
United States	\$35,904	\$38,144	\$39,821	\$41,082	\$39,376	\$40,277	\$42,453	\$44,266	\$44,438	\$46,049

Information provided by Bureau of Economic Analysis