Fremont County

January 2017

Workforce Trends

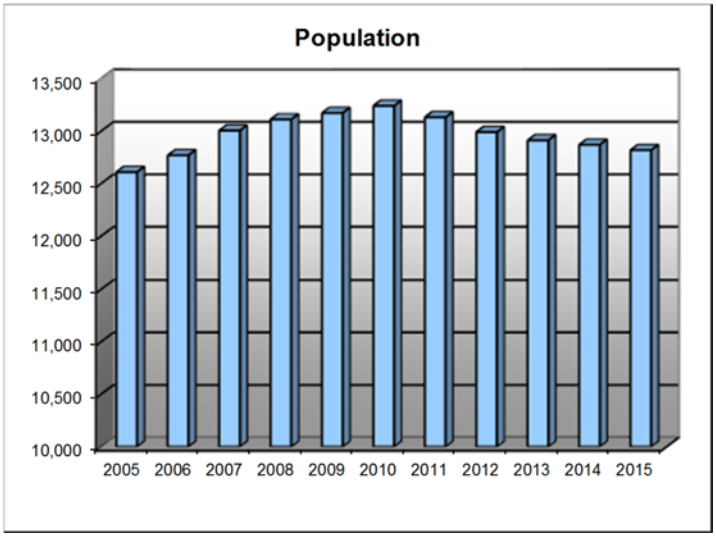
IDAHO DEPT. OF LABOR

Population

Fremont County's population grew 209 to 12,819 people between 2005 and 2015. The county experienced modest growth over the last decade as tourism-related industries benefit from a close proximity to Yellowstone National Park. Fremont County is part the Rexburg Micropolitan Statistical Area.

St. Anthony, the county seat, has a population of 3,442. Ashton, the second largest city, had a population of 1,051 in 2015.

Concentrated economic development efforts and the change from a two-year community college to four-year Brigham Young University-Idaho in neighboring Madison County initially contributed to continued growth in the southern end of the county. From 2005 to 2010 the county's population increased 5 percent. Beginning in 2011, however, population declined each year as people moved more toward urban areas.

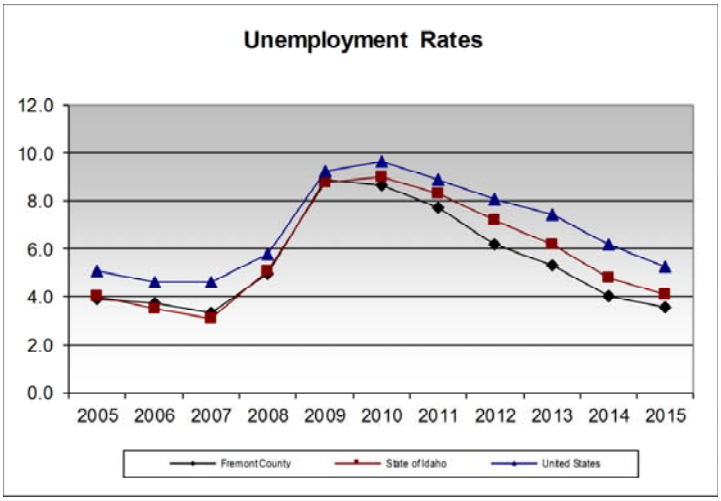


Labor Force & Employment

Fremont County, bordering Montana and Wyoming, has three significant cities on U.S. Highway 20, which is heavily traveled by tourists headed for Yellowstone National Park, Henry's Lake and Harriman State Park. The county attracts many locals to its recreation areas but also draws national and international tourists.

The closure of a sawmill in the 1980s and relocation of the U.S. Forest Service office to nearby Idaho Falls several years ago hurt the local economy, and rebounding has been difficult. Economic development initiatives are currently underway to strengthen the counties in and around the Teton Valley and Yellowstone.

Since 2005, the unemployment rates have fluctuated from a low of 3.3 percent in 2007 to a high of 8.9 in 2010. The labor force has remained strong, growing 18.8 percent over the last decade.



Labor Force	Dec 15	Dec 16
Civilian Labor Force	7,536	7,472
Total Employment	7,262	7,211
Unemployed	274	261
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.6	3.5
State of Idaho % Unemployed	3.9	3.7
U.S. % Unemployed	5.0	4.7

Government provides the most nonfarm payroll jobs, primarily through the state Juvenile Correction Center in St. Anthony. Federal and state governments together own 70 percent of the land so land management agencies employ many workers. Trade, construction and leisure and hospitality also account for large percentages of the county's jobs.

Labor Force	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Civilian Labor Force	6,093	6,029	5,777	5,763	5,552	6,746	6,704	6,926	6,924	6,991	7,237
Unemployment	237	227	191	286	494	584	519	428	366	283	257
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.9	3.8	3.3	5.0	8.9	8.7	7.7	6.2	5.3	4.0	3.6
Employment	5,856	5,802	5,586	5,477	5,059	6,162	6,184	6,498	6,558	6,708	6,980

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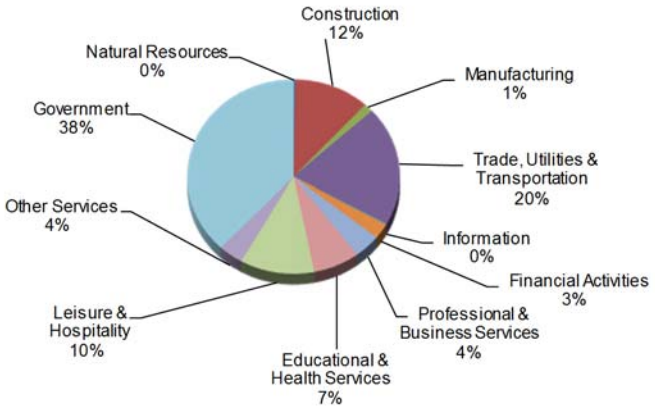
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2015



Covered Employment & Wages

Average covered employment decreased 157 from 2005 to 2015. The annual average wage increased over $7,900 in the decade. Average wages between 2014 and 2015 rose the most in information and financial activites. Jobs in the agriculture sector posted the largest change, a decrease of 188. Seven of the 12 sectors posted employment decreases between 2014 and 2015. Although quite a bit lower than the state or national averages, per capita income is decreased by nearly $250 in 2014. reversing the upward trend experienced the past three years.

Major Employers
Ashton Memorial Nursing Home
Broulim's Foodtown
Fremont County
Fremont County Joint School District #215
Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections
Fall River Rural Electric Coop
U.S. Department of Agriculture / Forest Service
Walters Produce, Inc.

Eastern Idaho Occupation Wages*	Median Wage
Farmworkers and Laborers	$14.74
Cashiers	$8.64
Computer Support Specialists	$20.80
Correctional Officers & Jailers	$16.02
Customer Service Reps	$11.27
Farm Equipment Mechanics	$16.04
Food & Beverage Serving Workers	$8.21
Graders and Sorters, Agricultural Products	$8.31
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	$9.94
Packers and Packagers, Hand	$8.64
Retail Salespersons	$10.48
Secretaries & Administrative Assistant	$14.33
Bill and Account Collectors	$13.62

* Wages represent nine counties in eastern Idaho. 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 2005, 2014 & 2015	2005		2014		2015	
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
Total Covered Wages	2,891	$24,505	2,971	$30,165	2,734	$32,449
Agriculture	339	$17,056	409	$25,611	221	$26,688
Mining	6	$14,797	3	$32,450	4	$29,941
Construction	279	$22,710	274	$37,296	287	$37,575
Manufacturing	47	$18,068	33	$24,288	35	$25,958
Trade, Utilities, & Transportation	473	$26,808	499	$35,216	509	$36,531
Information	33	$30,192	6	$74,068	5	$106,669
Financial Activities	80	$27,266	78	$25,344	66	$32,560
Professional and Business Services	121	$30,261	104	$28,657	97	$31,291
Educational and Health Services	178	$23,411	157	$22,332	178	$27,764
Leisure and Hospitality	249	$10,853	307	$13,473	294	$15,422
Other Services	44	$19,411	72	$30,527	66	$33,880
Government	1,042	$29,324	1,029	$34,208	974	$35,992

Per Capita Income	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Fremont County	$21,684	$22,832	$25,315	$26,575	$26,113	$28,297	$29,252	$32,180	$32,406	$34,828
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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