

# State of Idaho

IDAHO  
DEPT. OF LABOR

June 2020

## Workforce Trends

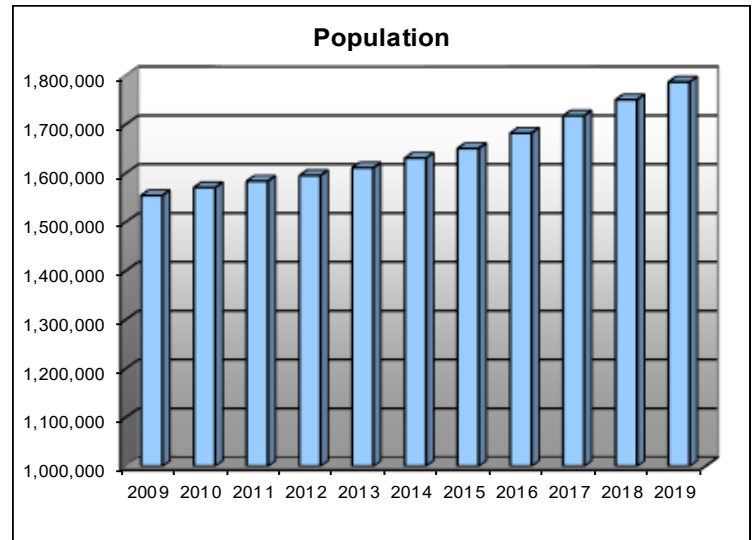
### Population

Idaho's 82,413 square miles vary geographically from high desert in the south to beautiful forests on rugged mountains in the north.

Idaho ranked number one in rate of growth in 2019 at 2.1 percent as the population rose to a record 1,787,065. From 2010 to 2019, Idaho ranked 7<sup>th</sup> among the states in population growth at 13.8 percent, or 216,319 people. Population growth peaked in 2006 at 2.8 percent. The recession slowed migration to the state. In 2019 Idaho ranked the 39<sup>th</sup> most populous state.

Between 2010 and 2019, the state's population experienced a natural increase (births versus deaths) of 90,989. During this same time period, 127,605 people migrated to the state, of which over 113,148 were from other parts of the United States, often referred to as domestic immigrants.

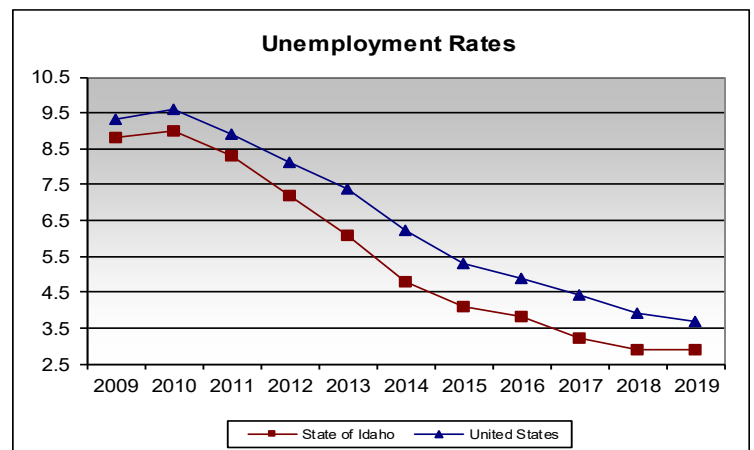
In 2019 population dropped in six counties. Fremont experienced the largest loss at 56, Lincoln lost 32, Power lost 19, Camas lost 15, Clark lost 6 and Clearwater lost 2. The four counties with populations over 100,000 – Ada, Bonneville, Canyon and Kootenai – added over 26,500 people. Although Bannock County has a population less than 100,000 it had the 5<sup>th</sup> largest numeric increase in population in 2019.



### Labor Force & Employment

Idaho's labor force grew 16.5 percent from 2009 to 2019 to 881,891. The unemployment rate was unchanged at 2.9 percent in 2019. Unemployment increased monthly from March 2008 through March 2009 with a small decrease in April then again increasing through June 2009 when it peaked at 73,749. Since May 2007, when unemployment was at its lowest during this period, the number of unemployed nearly tripled while workers with jobs began falling in August 2007 and continued dropping through March 2013. The largest employment drop occurred between November and December 2008 at 3,870. In May 2009 the number unemployed increase 13,176, the largest recorded, coupled with a loss of 1,829 employed resulting in the labor force expanding even as the jobless rate hit near-record highs. Since September 2009, the number of unemployed declined and the number employed increased with a few minor exceptions. After rebounding from the 2001 recession, the unemployment rate hit a record low 2.8 percent in August and September 2018. The monthly rate in 2019 was 2.9 percent.

Nonfarm job growth came to an abrupt halt in 2008. After

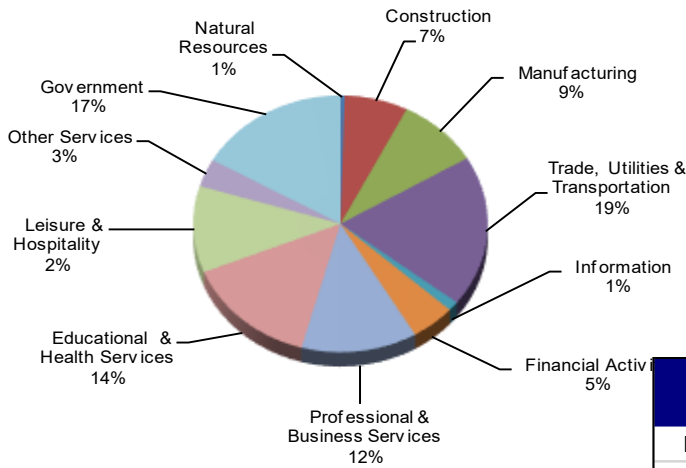


yearly increases in excess of 2 percent since 2004, nonfarm jobs began falling for the first time since 1986. In 2010 nonfarm jobs dropped to 603,600, the lowest level since 2004 when it was just over 587,900. The annual average loss of nearly 39,000 jobs in 2009 spanned all sectors of the economy except education and health care. In 2011 nonfarm jobs were once again on the increase with an additional 7,200. In 2012 the growth continued with an additional 11,500 jobs. By 2017 the job growth was at 22,700 bringing the total number of jobs to 716,600. The largest increase in jobs was in education and health care services adding 3,900. The natural resources & mining sector was the only sector to experience a job loss of 200.

Labor Force	May 19	May 20
Civilian Labor Force	879,122	883,658
Total Employment	853,250	804,643
Unemployed	25,872	79,015
State of Idaho % Unemployed	2.9	8.9
U.S. % Unemployed	3.6	13.3

Labor Force	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Civilian Labor Force	757,131	761,056	765,178	769,256	770,833	779,986	794,687	814,668	833,906	857,207	881,891
Unemployment	66,409	68,230	63,712	55,552	47,197	37,684	32,617	30,777	26,759	24,921	25,646
% of Labor Force Unemployed	8.8	9.0	8.3	7.2	6.1	4.8	4.1	3.8	3.2	2.9	2.9
Employment	690,722	692,826	701,466	713,704	723,636	742,302	762,070	783,891	807,147	832,286	856,245

## Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2019



## Employment & Wages

Employment continued to increase in 2019 private employment at 631,468, up with nearly 20,000 and 132,000 from 2009. The growth occurred in all sectors except information services. The largest growth was in the educational and health services, sector with 5,100 jobs. Leisure and hospitality and construction each experienced an increase of more than 3,000 jobs.

The average 2019 covered wage was \$44,251, an increase of \$1,364 from 2018 but an increase of \$10,126 from 2009. Over the decade, the largest increase was in financial activities sectors at 45.7 percent, or more than \$18,600. There were no sectors that reported a wage decrease from 2018 but information reported a 12 percent drop from 2009. Leisure and hospitality continued to have the lowest average wage at \$17,768, but it was up \$664 for 2018.

Idaho's 2018 per capita income increased for the ninth year following a drop in 2009. The 2018 increase brought Idaho's per capita income to a record high \$43,901. Idaho's per capita income was 81 percent of the national average and ranks 43rd in the United States.

## Major Private Employers

Albertsons
Battelle Energy Alliance
Brigham Young University Idaho
Hewlett-Packard Co
Idaho Power Co
J R Simplot Co
Kootenai Medical Center
Micron Technology
Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center
St Lukes Regional Medical Center
Walmart
Wells Fargo

Occupational Wages*	Starting Wage	Median Wage
Bookkeeping, Accounting, & Auditing Clerks	\$11.92	\$18.72
Cashiers	\$8.84	\$11.20
Customer Service Representatives	\$11.66	\$16.12
Food Preparation Workers	\$8.35	\$11.11
General & Operations Managers	\$18.45	\$38.98
Janitor & Cleaners	\$9.61	\$12.57
Laborers & Freight Stock & Material Movers, Hand	\$10.52	\$15.29
Nursing Assistants	\$11.26	\$13.92
Office Clerks General	\$10.76	\$16.08
Home Health & Personal Care Aides	\$9.53	\$11.72
Registered Nurse	\$25.37	\$33.40
Retail Salesperson	\$9.49	\$14.00
Secretaries & Administrative Assistants	\$11.47	\$16.31
Stock Clerks & Order Fillers	\$10.20	\$13.84
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	\$13.71	\$21.00
Waiters & Waitresses	\$8.49	\$10.84

\* 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 2009, 2018 & 2019	2009		2018		2019	
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
<b>Total Covered Wages</b>	613,762	\$34,125	730,834	\$42,887	752,368	\$44,251
<b>Agriculture</b>	22,302	\$26,680	24,451	\$37,262	24,273	\$38,051
<b>Mining</b>	2,172	\$56,739	2,170	\$71,725	2,296	\$73,068
<b>Construction</b>	34,431	\$37,219	46,902	\$44,305	50,680	\$46,245
<b>Manufacturing</b>	54,765	\$46,717	67,779	\$63,942	68,453	\$62,451
<b>Trade, Utilities &amp; Transportation</b>	121,293	\$30,713	139,538	\$39,965	142,098	\$41,541
<b>Information</b>	10,055	\$40,517	8,801	\$52,738	8,846	\$56,015
<b>Financial Activities</b>	27,692	\$40,779	32,486	\$56,034	33,246	\$59,396
<b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>	75,653	\$41,741	91,827	\$51,663	94,276	\$55,045
<b>Educational &amp; Health Services</b>	77,554	\$35,057	100,215	\$42,049	105,303	\$43,465
<b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</b>	58,606	\$13,306	78,706	\$17,104	82,561	\$17,768
<b>Other Services</b>	15,647	\$23,838	18,637	\$31,321	19,437	\$32,606
<b>Government</b>	113,591	\$36,052	119,322	\$42,874	120,900	\$44,193

Per Capita Income	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>State of Idaho</b>	\$31,186	\$31,957	\$33,515	\$35,188	\$36,200	\$37,896	\$39,857	\$40,670	\$42,094	\$43,901
<b>United States</b>	\$39,284	\$40,546	\$42,735	\$44,599	\$44,851	\$47,058	\$48,978	\$49,870	\$51,885	\$54,446

Information provided by Bureau of Economic Analysis