

Washington County

IDAHO
DEPT. OF LABOR

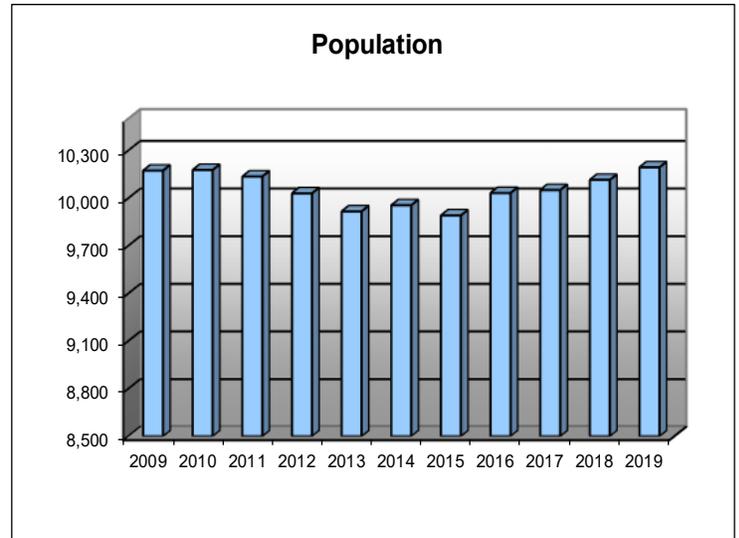
September 2020

Workforce Trends

Population

Washington County ranks 29th in area among Idaho's 44 counties. Its population has hovered around 10,000 since the late '90's. In 2019, the county's population reached 10,194, after adding only 21 people since 2009.

Weiser is the largest city and the county seat with a population of 5,376 in 2019. It hosts the popular National Oldtime Fiddlers Contest and Festival in June. Hundreds of contestants come from all over the U.S. and around the globe. The visitors almost double Weiser's population during the two-week period.

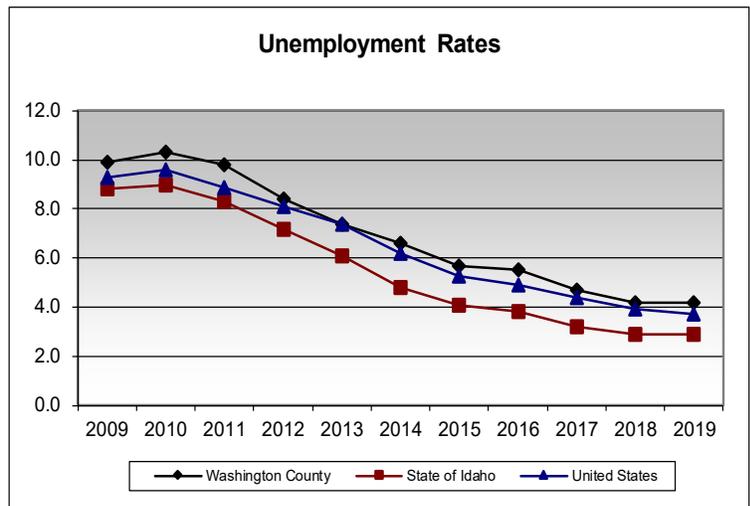


Labor Force & Employment

Washington County's labor force declined because of the recession between 2009 and 2013. Since then it has remained fairly stable. The county's unemployment rate fell to 4.2 percent in 2018 and stayed there in 2019. That rate ties with its 2007 rate as record lows.

In 2019, covered employment declined 1.3 percent, losing 37 jobs. While manufacturing and leisure and hospitality added jobs, retail trade and professional services lost more jobs.

Over the decade, the county is down 217 covered jobs—a decline of 7.3 percent. Retailers and wholesalers lost 23 percent of their jobs. Manufacturing's addition of 136 jobs (mostly in wood products) did not offset falling employment in retail, health care, and other sectors. Rural Idaho is suffering as most people moving into the state



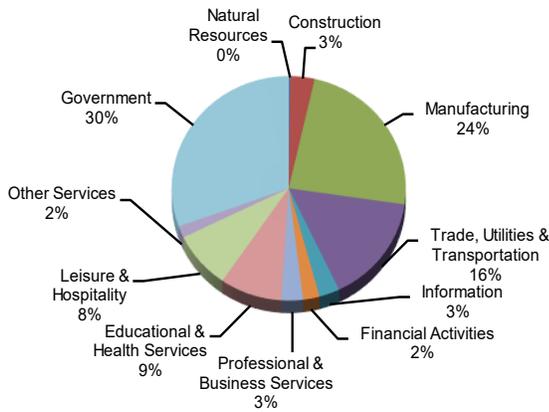
favor metropolitan areas or tourist towns.

Washington County is home to a couple of large employers adding diversity and opportunities for the future. Canyon and Ada counties are struggling with housing affordability issues, which eventually pushes growth out to rural areas.

Labor Force	Aug 19	Aug 20
Civilian Labor Force	4,623	4,715
Total Employment	4,418	4,509
Unemployed	205	206
% of Labor Force Unemployed	4.4	4.4
State of Idaho % Unemployed	2.9	4.2
U.S. % Unemployed	3.7	8.4

Labor Force	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Civilian Labor Force	4,922	4,726	4,736	4,786	4,764	4,582	4,566	4,608	4,602	4,628	4,612
Unemployment	488	488	462	403	351	304	261	254	217	194	192
% of Labor Force Unemployed	9.9	10.3	9.8	8.4	7.4	6.6	5.7	5.5	4.7	4.2	4.2
Employment	4,433	4,238	4,274	4,383	4,413	4,278	4,305	4,354	4,385	4,434	4,420

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2019



Per Capita Income, Nonfarm Jobs & Wages

Washington County's per capita income increased 3.9 percent from \$34,870 in 2017 to \$36,225 in 2018. Its growth rate was slower than Idaho's 4.3 percent and the nation's 4.9 percent. The county's 2018 per capita income ranked 34th among Idaho's 44 counties.

Government, including public education, continued to make up the largest portion of covered employment at 28 percent. Manufacturing was next with 23 percent followed by trade, utilities and transportation at 14 percent.

The average wage per job showed virtually no change in 2019. Coupled with a small job loss, that suggests the county probably experienced little income growth in 2019.

Major Employers

Appleton Produce
Bi Mart
Cambridge School District
Champion Home Builders
City of Weiser
Hometown Ford
McDonalds of Weiser
Midvale School District
Ridley's
Washington County
Weiser Care of Cascadia
Weiser Memorial Hospital
Weiser School District

Southwest Idaho Occupational Wages*	Entry Wage	Median Wage
Agricultural Equipment Operators	\$17.15	\$19.25
Bookkeeping, Accounting, & Auditing Clerks	\$12.74	\$19.57
Carpenter	\$12.48	\$17.58
Construction Laborer	\$12.65	\$16.79
Farmworkers and Laborers - Crop	\$10.64	\$12.57
Farmworkers, Farm, & Ranch Animals	\$10.44	\$17.88
Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$15.68	\$22.63
Nursing Assistants	\$11.87	\$14.66
Retail Salesperson	\$9.48	\$13.88
Shipping, Receiving, & Inventory Clerks	\$11.56	\$16.74
Tellers	\$12.71	\$14.90

*Additional occupational wage data can be found on the Idaho Department of Labor website at <https://lmi.idaho.gov/oes>

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
Total Covered Wages	2,826	\$25,534	2,771	\$33,515	2,734	\$33,520
Agriculture	265	\$19,377	218	\$30,522	211	\$31,101
Mining	**	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Construction	86	\$27,191	83	\$34,928	85	\$35,963
Manufacturing	468	\$25,331	580	\$34,458	604	\$36,675
Trade, Utilities & Transportation	512	\$26,005	411	\$35,860	394	\$35,214
Information	102	\$35,380	72	\$49,581	72	\$50,128
Financial Activities	77	\$34,532	51	\$31,591	58	\$36,017
Professional and Business Services	105	\$27,507	148	\$50,806	75	\$36,403
Educational and Health Services	269	\$23,349	209	\$33,897	218	\$35,064
Leisure and Hospitality	186	\$10,077	193	\$11,150	208	\$11,037
Other Services	37	\$28,269	50	\$25,839	42	\$25,741
Government	717	\$29,455	756	\$33,558	768	\$34,626

Per Capita Income	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Washington County	\$28,377	\$29,525	\$30,617	\$30,811	\$32,591	\$32,781	\$35,055	\$34,150	\$34,870	\$36,225
State of Idaho	\$31,186	\$31,957	\$33,515	\$35,188	\$36,200	\$37,896	\$39,857	\$40,670	\$42,094	\$43,901
United States	\$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



This county is served by the office listed below:
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labor.idaho.gov

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