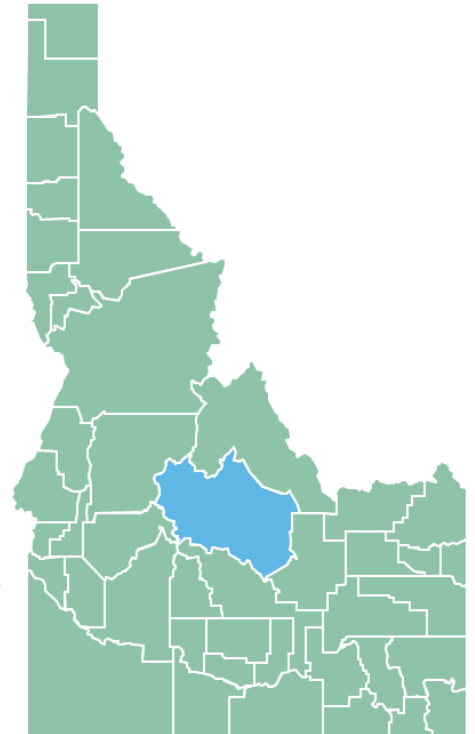


# Custer County Labor Force And Economic Profile

Last Updated: September 2025

## Custer County Economic Overview

Civilian Labor Force (Aug 2025)	1,898
Unemployment Rate (Aug 2025)	4.6%
Population (2024)	4,597
Median Household Income (2023)	\$56,957
Per Capita Personal Income (2023)	\$52,420
Poverty Rate (2023)	11.5%



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## 1. Custer County Demographic Characteristics, 2023 5-Year ACS

	Custer County	Custer County (%)	State of Idaho (%)	United States (%)
<b>Total Population</b>	4,411	100.0%	1,893,296	332,387,540
<b>Race and Ethnicity</b>				
White alone, not hispanic	3,967	89.9%	83.3%	63.4%
Black or African American alone, not hispanic	12	0.3%	0.7%	12.4%
Native American alone, not hispanic	19	0.4%	1.1%	0.9%
Asian alone, not hispanic	117	2.7%	1.3%	5.8%
Hispanic, or Latino (of any race)	131	3.0%	13.3%	19.0%
<b>Gender</b>				
Male	2,297	52.1%	50.3%	49.5%
Female	2,114	47.9%	49.7%	50.5%
<b>Age</b>				
Median age	59.5	-	37.1	38.7
Under 18 years	491	11.1%	24.5%	22.2%
Over 18 years	3,920	88.9%	75.5%	77.8%
21 years and over	3,691	83.7%	65.7%	68.7%
Over 65 years	1,594	36.1%	16.6%	16.8%
<b>Educational Attainment (Population 25 years and Over)</b>				
Less than 9th grade	5	0.1%	2.1%	3.2%
High school graduate (with equivalencies)	1,063	24.1%	17.0%	18.0%
Some college, no degree	996	22.6%	16.3%	13.3%
Associate's degree	466	10.6%	6.4%	6.0%
Bachelor's degree	787	17.8%	13.7%	14.6%
Graduate or professional degree	143	3.2%	6.8%	9.4%
<b>Median Household Income</b>	\$56,957	-	\$74,636	\$78,538

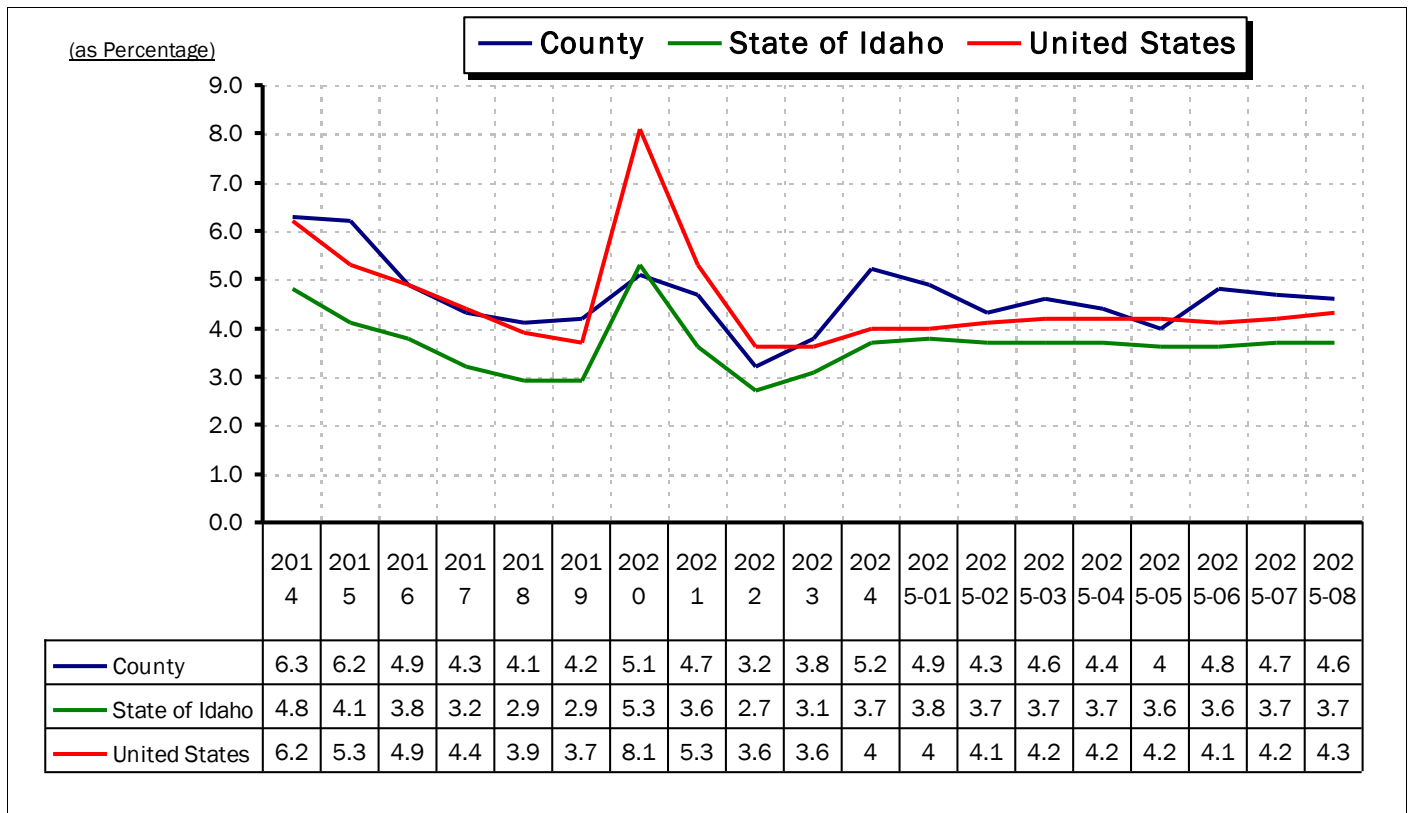
Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

## 2. Labor Force Growth, August 2024 to August 2025

	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
<b>August 2025</b>	1,898	1,810	88	4.6%
<b>August 2024</b>	1,834	1,738	96	5.2%
<b>YoY % Change</b>	3.5%	4.1%	-8.3%	-0.6%

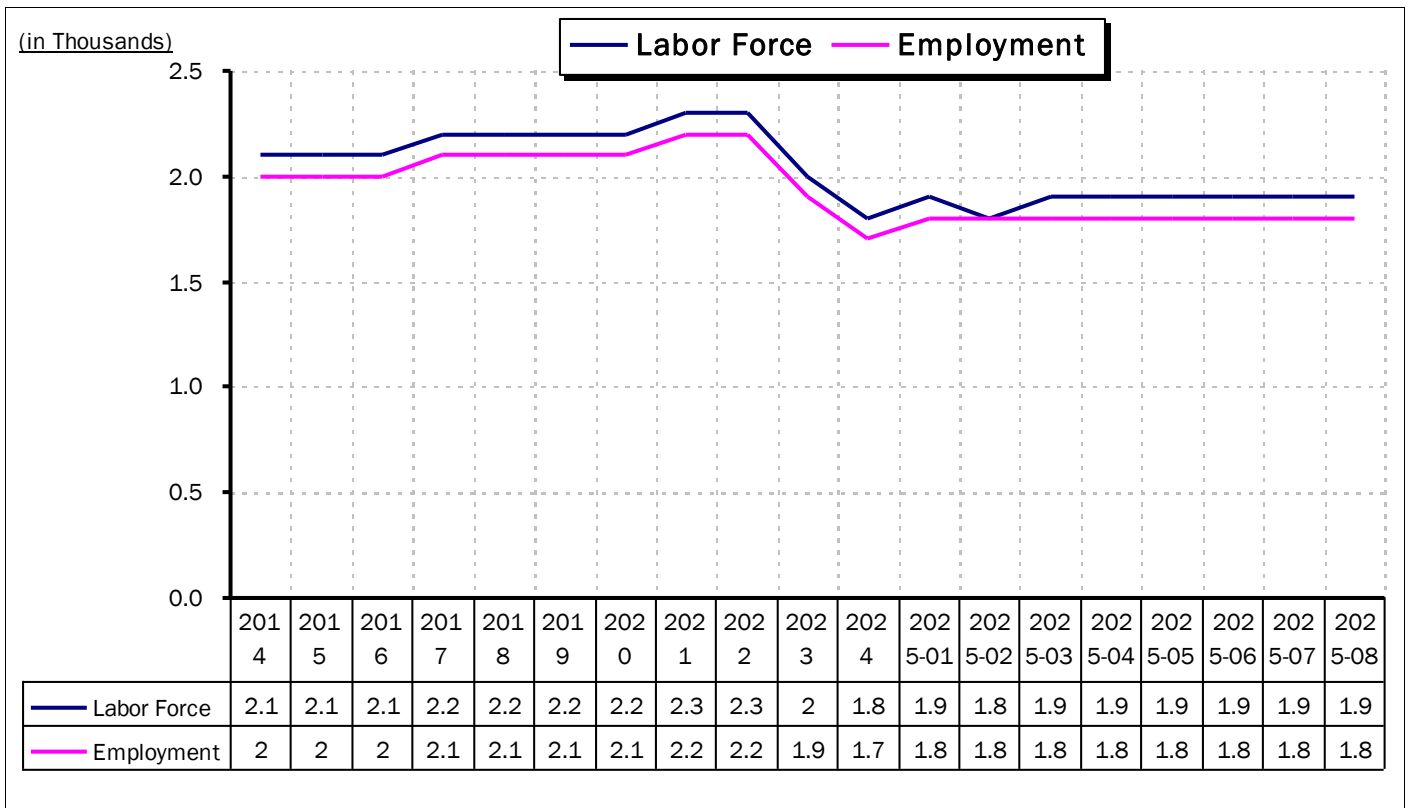
Source: Idaho Department of Labor- Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

### 3. Seasonally-Adjusted Unemployment Rate, 2014 to August 2025



Source: Idaho Department of Labor- Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

### 4. Seasonally-Adjusted Labor Force and Employment, 2014 to August 2025



Source: Idaho Department of Labor- Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

## 5. Industry Employment and Wages, 2014, 2023, and 2024

Supersector	2014		2023		2024	
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
Total Covered Wages	1,538	\$37,924	1,581	\$40,302	1,528	\$45,990
Natural Resources and Mining	274	\$85,423	100	\$70,034	144	\$77,257
Construction	59	\$35,274	91	\$40,470	73	\$40,499
Manufacturing	9	\$37,838	19	\$35,562	16	\$32,185
Trade,Transportation, and Utilities	243	\$26,306	293	\$36,824	273	\$39,959
Information	46	\$35,170	31	\$61,708	32	\$62,490
Financial Activities	33	\$22,642	26	\$66,351	34	\$64,240
Professional and Business Services	63	\$45,657	66	\$58,057	58	\$76,169
Education and Health Services	227	\$20,648	268	\$26,847	196	\$36,906
Leisure and Hospitality	291	\$17,053	421	\$29,948	380	\$32,268
Other Services	39	\$16,080	31	\$29,646	77	\$20,265
Public Administration	254	\$41,687	235	\$56,910	245	\$61,672

Source: Idaho Department of Labor- Quarterly Census of Employment Wages (QCEW)

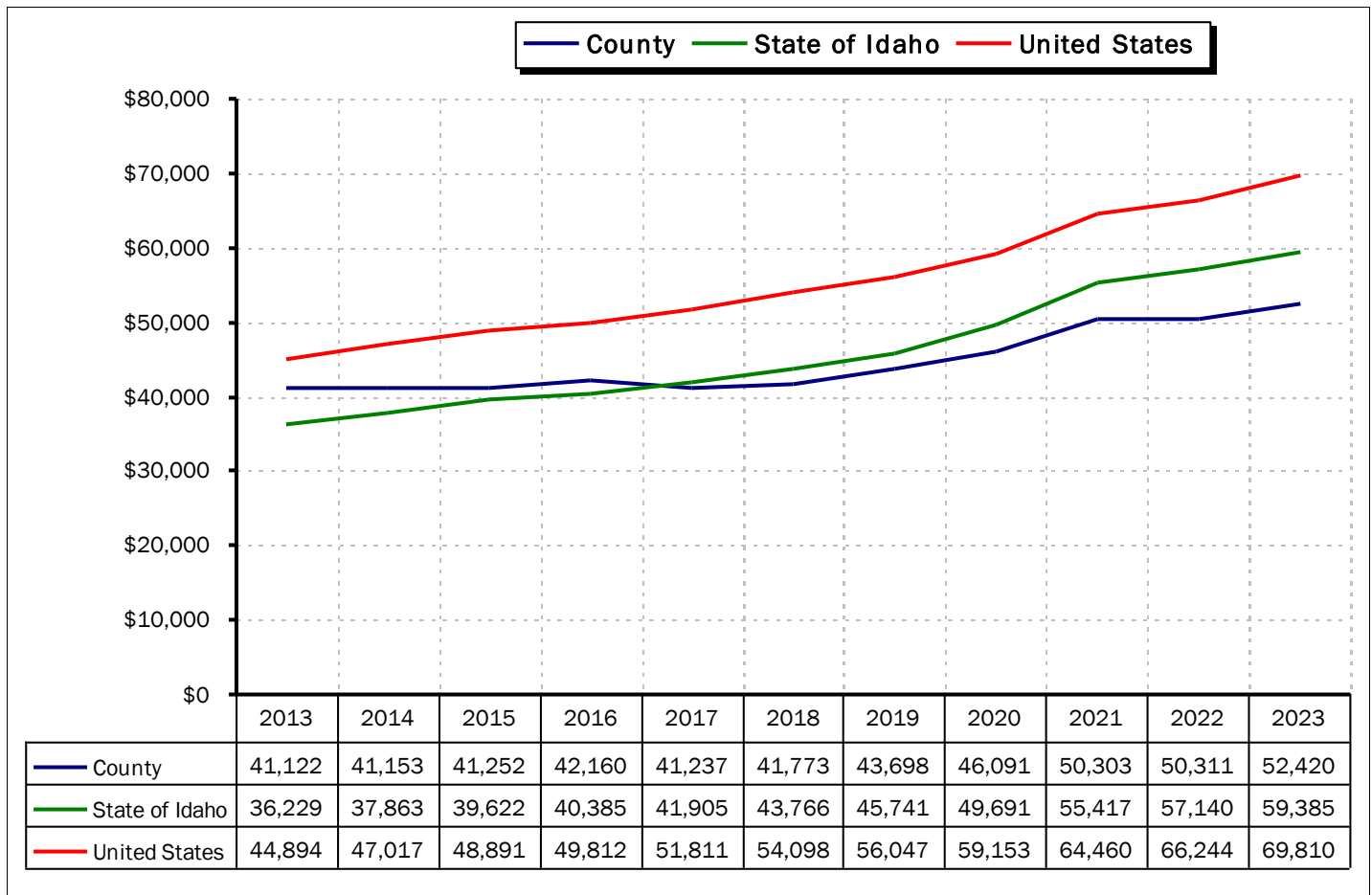
## 6. Top Employers, 2024

Employer	Ownership	Employment Range
U.S. Forest Service	Federal government	100 - 249
Thompson Creek Mining	Private	050 - 099
Challis Joint School District	Local government	050 - 099
Custer County	Local government	050 - 099
Redfish Lake Lodge	Private	010 - 049
Personal Home Care	Private	010 - 049
Mackay Joint School District	Local government	010 - 049
Mountain Village Resort	Private	010 - 049
Lamb's Market	Private	010 - 049
Challis Area Health Center	Private	010 - 049

NOTE: Only employers that have given the Department permission to release employment range data are listed.

Source: Idaho Department of Labor- Quarterly Census of Employment Wages (QCEW)

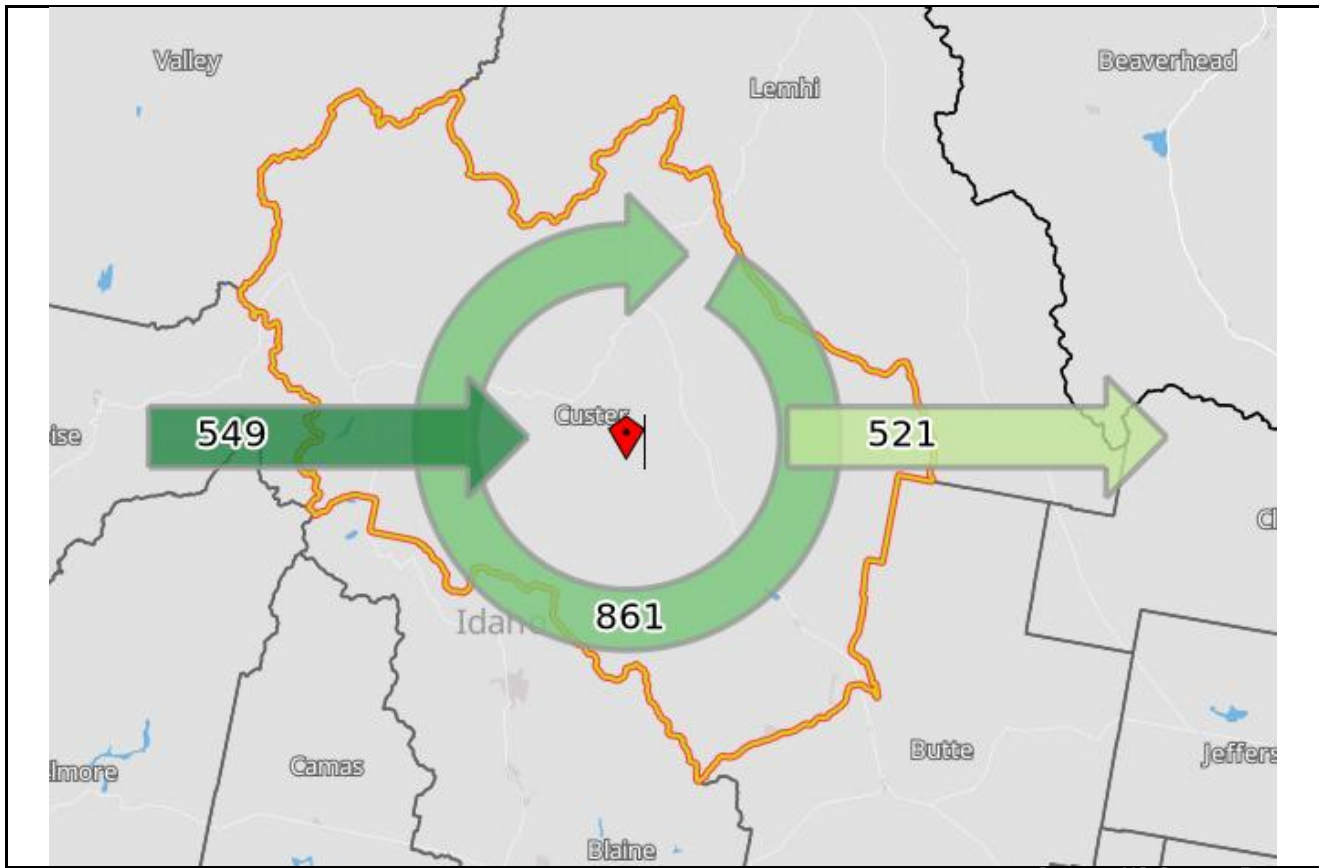
## 7. Real Per Capita Income, 2013 to 2023



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

## 8. Labor Force Commuting Patterns, 2022

It is estimated that 861 workers lived and worked in Custer County in 2022. Another 549 workers were employed in Custer County but lived outside, while 521 workers commuted to other counties for work.



Source: US Census Bureau

## 9. Top 10 Cities Where People Who Work in Custer County Live, 2022

City of Residence	Count of All Jobs	Percentage of Total Jobs
Challis	197	14.0%
Mackay	78	5.5%
Salmon	33	2.3%
Idaho Falls	23	1.6%
Stanley	23	1.6%
Arco	20	1.4%
Boise	17	1.2%
Twin Falls	16	1.1%
Hailey	11	0.8%
Jerome	10	0.7%

Note: "All Jobs" includes private and public sector jobs. It also includes a count of workers with multiple jobs. Source: US Census Bureau- Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD)



## 10. Top 10 Cities Where People Who Live in Custer County Work, 2022

City of Employment	Count of All Jobs	Percentage of Total Jobs
Challis	293	21.2%
Mackay	239	17.3%
Idaho Falls	103	7.5%
Stanley	59	4.3%
Boise	53	3.8%
Pocatello	24	1.7%
Arco	21	1.5%
Twin Falls	19	1.4%
Salmon	18	1.3%
Meridian	15	1.1%

Note: "All Jobs" includes private and public sector jobs. It also includes a count of workers with multiple jobs. Source: US Census Bureau- Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD)

### For more Information, Contact:

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