

Last Updated: September 2025

Southwest Idaho Economic Overview

491,171 Civilian Labor Force (Aug 2025) **Unemployment Rate (Aug 2025)** 3.7% Population (2024) 932,582 \$67,835 Median Household Income (2023) Per Capita Personal Income (2023) \$52,377 Poverty Rate (2023) 9.4%

Idaho Department of Labor labor.idaho.gov



1. Southwest Demographic Characteristics, 2023 5-Year ACS

	Southwest	Region (%)	State of Idaho (%)	United States (%)
Total Population	873,477	100.0%	1,893,296	332,387,540
Race and Ethnicity				
White alone, not hispanic	712,209	81.5%	83.3%	63.4%
Black or African American alone, not hispanic	9,196	1.1%	0.7%	12.4%
Native American alone, not hispanic	6,981	0.8%	1.1%	0.9%
Asian alone, not hispanic	16,104	1.8%	1.3%	5.8%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	128,415	14.7%	13.3%	19.0%
Gender				
Male	440,079	50.4%	50.3%	49.5%
Female	433,398	49.6%	49.7%	50.5%
Age				
Median age	42.7	-	37.1	38.7
Under 18 years	207,954	23.8%	24.5%	22.2%
Over 18 years	665,523	76.2%	75.5%	77.8%
21 years and over	588,354	67.4%	65.7%	68.7%
Over 65 years	140,402	16.1%	16.6%	16.8%
Educational Attainment (Population 25 years and 0	Over)			
Less than 9th grade	18,459	2.1%	2.1%	3.2%
High school graduate (with equivalencies)	141,039	5.9%	17.0%	18.0%
Some college, no degree	141,640	16.2%	16.3%	13.3%
Associate's degree	51,877	5.9%	6.4%	6.0%
Bachelor's degree	138,253	15.8%	13.7%	14.6%
Graduate or professional degree	69,276	7.9%	6.8%	9.4%
Median Household Income	\$67,835	-	\$74,636	\$78,538

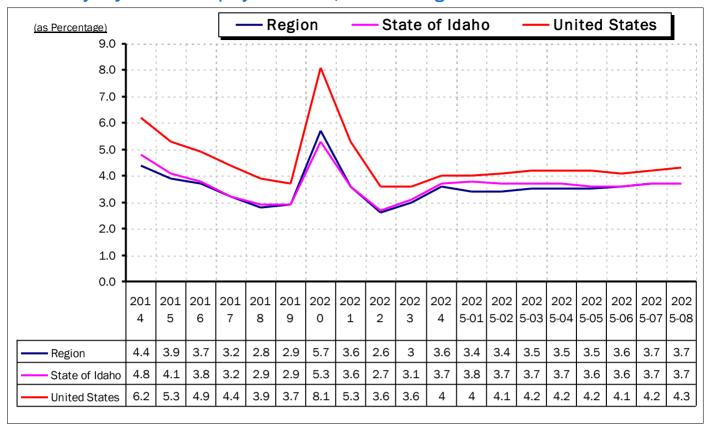
Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

2. Labor Force Growth, August 2024 to August 2025

	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
August 2025	491,171	473,197	17,974	3.7%
August 2024	487,002	469,127	17,875	3.7%
YoY % Change	0.9%	0.9%	0.6%	0.0%

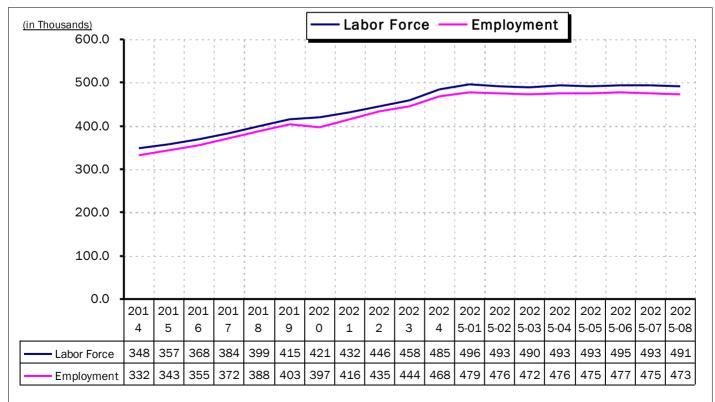
Source: Idaho Department of Labor- Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

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

	2014	4	2023	3	202	24
Industry Sector	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
Total Covered Wages	294,199	\$41,297	400,098	\$60,201	410,410	\$64,668
Natural Resources and Mining	6,749	\$32,687	6,619	\$47,705	7,009	\$50,158
Construction	16,996	\$41,606	34,510	\$63,537	36,178	\$69,171
Manufacturing	26,693	\$73,878	32,973	\$84,496	33,068	\$98,654
Trade,Transportation, and Utilities	59,634	\$38,798	79,700	\$56,350	81,631	\$58,837
Information	5,167	\$48,711	4,362	\$96,497	4,440	\$106,761
Financial Activities	14,548	\$52,848	21,127	\$81,742	20,772	\$89,827
Professional and Business Services	39,831	\$41,797	56,075	\$75,104	57,016	\$81,635
Education and Health Services	65,967	\$39,070	86,826	\$55,063	90,739	\$57,375
Leisure and Hospitality	29,702	\$15,039	43,889	\$25,083	44,211	\$25,845
Other Services	8,023	\$26,405	11,243	\$44,019	11,728	\$46,496
Public Administration	20,889	\$48,577	22,774	\$68,701	23,618	\$73,353

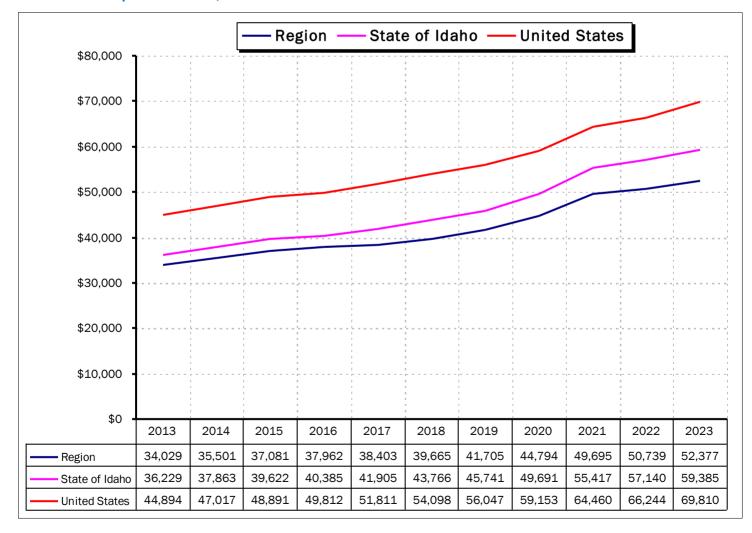
Source: Idaho Department of Labor- Quarterly Census of Employment Wages (QCEW)

6. Top Employers, 2024

Employer	Ownership	Employment Range
St. Luke's Regional Medical Center	Private	10,000+
St. Alphonsus Health System	Private	5,000 - 9,999
Micron Technology	Private	5,000 - 9,999
Boise State University	State Government	5,000 - 9,999
West Ada School District	Local Government	5,000 - 9,999
Albertsons	Private	2,500 - 4,999
Wal-Mart	Private	2,500 - 4,999
Boise School District	Local Government	2,500 - 4,999
J. R. Simplot Company	Private	2,500 - 4,999
City of Boise	Local Government	1,000 - 2,499

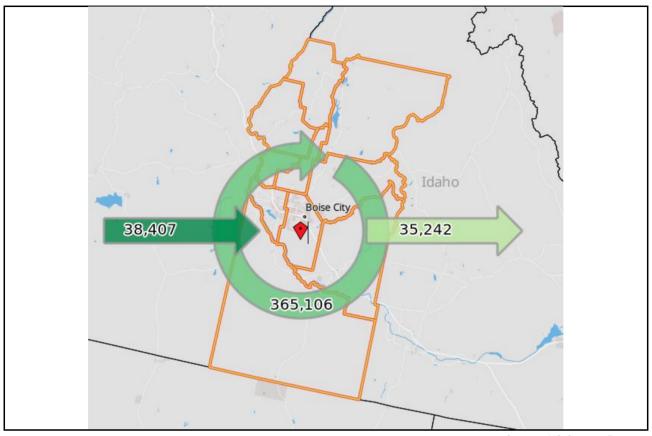
NOTE: Only employers that have given the Department permission to release employment range data are listed. Source: Idaho Department of Labor- Quarterly Census of Employment Wages (QCEW)

7. Real Per Capita Income, 2013 to 2023



8. Labor Force Commuting Patterns, 2022

It is estimated that 365,106 workers lived and worked in Southwest Idaho in . Another 38,407 workers were employed in Southwest Idaho but lived outside, while 35,242 workers lived in the area but commuted outside for work.



Source: US Census Bureau

9. Top 10 Cities Where People Who Work in Southwest Idaho Live, 2022

City of Residence	Count of All Jobs	Percentage of Total Jobs
Boise	109,672	27.2%
Meridian	53,801	13.3%
Nampa	45,984	11.4%
Caldwell	26,397	6.5%
Kuna	11,611	2.9%
Eagle	11,373	2.8%
Mountain Home	5,384	1.3%
Garden City	4,283	1.1%
Middleton	3,932	1.0%
Star city	3,569	0.9%

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 Southwest Idaho Work, 2022

City of Employment	Count of All Jobs	Percentage of Total Jobs
Boise	165,556	41.4%
Meridian	54,065	13.5%
Nampa	46,137	11.5%
Caldwell	18,702	4.7%
Eagle	11,356	2.8%
Garden City	9,340	2.3%
Kuna	3,914	1.0%
Twin Falls	2,839	0.7%
Mountain Home	2,791	0.7%
Ontario, OR	2,319	0.6%

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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