

Last Updated: November 2025

Gooding County Economic Overview

Civilian Labor Force (Nov 2025) 8.474 **Unemployment Rate (Nov 2025)** 3.4% Population (2024) 16.189 Median Household Income (2023) \$62,395 \$63,424 Per Capita Personal Income (2023) Poverty Rate (2023) 15.3%

Idaho Department of Labor labor.idaho.gov



1. Gooding County Demographic Characteristics, 2023 5-Year ACS

	Gooding County	Gooding County (%)	State of Idaho (%)	United States (%)	
Total Population	15,740	100.0%	1,893,296	332,387,540	
Race and Ethnicity					
White alone, not hispanic	11,348	72.1%	83.3%	63.4%	
Black or African American alone, not hispanic	10	0.1%	0.7%	12.4%	
Native American alone, not hispanic	384	2.4%	1.1%	0.9%	
Asian alone, not hispanic	116	0.7%	1.3%	5.8%	
Hispanic, or Latino (of any race)	4,876	31.0%	13.3%	19.0%	
Gender					
Male	7,943	50.5%	50.3%	49.5%	
Female	7,797	49.5%	49.7%	50.5%	
Age					
Median age	38.4	-	37.1	38.7	
Under 18 years	4,269	27.1%	24.5%	22.2%	
Over 18 years	11,471	72.9%	75.5%	77.8%	
21 years and over	10,123	64.3%	65.7%	68.7%	
Over 65 years	2,860	18.2%	16.6%	16.8%	
Educational Attainment (Population 25 years and Over)					
Less than 9th grade	670	4.3%	2.1%	3.2%	
High school graduate (with equivalencies)	3,081	19.6%	17.0%	18.0%	
Some college, no degree	2,380	15.1%	16.3%	13.3%	
Associate's degree	890	5.7%	6.4%	6.0%	
Bachelor's degree	1,119	7.1%	13.7%	14.6%	
Graduate or professional degree	607	3.9%	6.8%	9.4%	
Median Household Income	\$62,395	-	\$74,636	\$78,538	

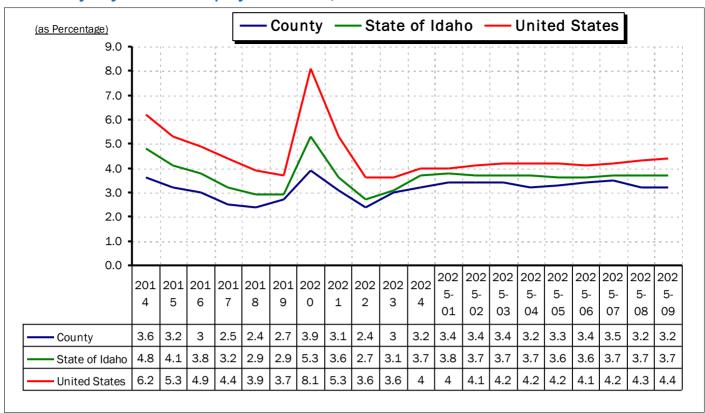
Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

2. Labor Force Growth, November 2024 to November 2025

	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
November 2024	8,474	8,190	284	3.4%
November 2023	8,393	8,140	253	3.0%
YoY % Change	1.0%	0.6%	12.3%	0.4%

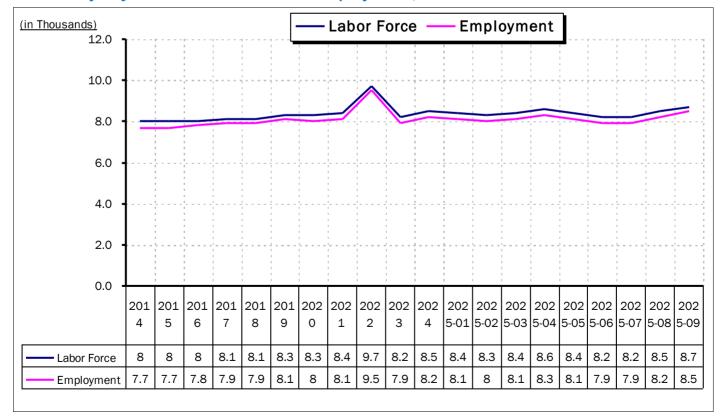
Source: Idaho Department of Labor- Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

3. Seasonally-Adjusted Unemployment Rate, 2014 to November 2025



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

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



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

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

	201	4	202	23	202	4
Supersector	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
Total Covered Wages	5,892	\$31,533	6,653	\$46,635	6,721	\$48,921
Natural Resources and Mining	1,900	\$30,465	2,050	\$44,313	2,054	\$46,504
Construction	206	\$28,001	376	\$49,632	375	\$53,591
Manufacturing	786	\$46,283	1,014	\$59,352	1,005	\$61,482
Trade,Transportation, and Utilities	860	\$32,692	784	\$50,075	799	\$55,419
Information			11	\$22,012	9	\$26,397
Financial Activities	104	\$26,905	123	\$52,403	124	\$56,951
Professional and Business Services	154	\$43,487	138	\$58,409	119	\$63,055
Education and Health Services	1,036	\$27,857	1,364	\$46,090	1,397	\$48,809
Leisure and Hospitality	344	\$12,367	380	\$17,859	405	\$18,477
Other Services	164	\$45,950	112	\$49,442	100	\$42,123
Public Administration	338	\$22,190	301	\$37,802	334	\$37,204

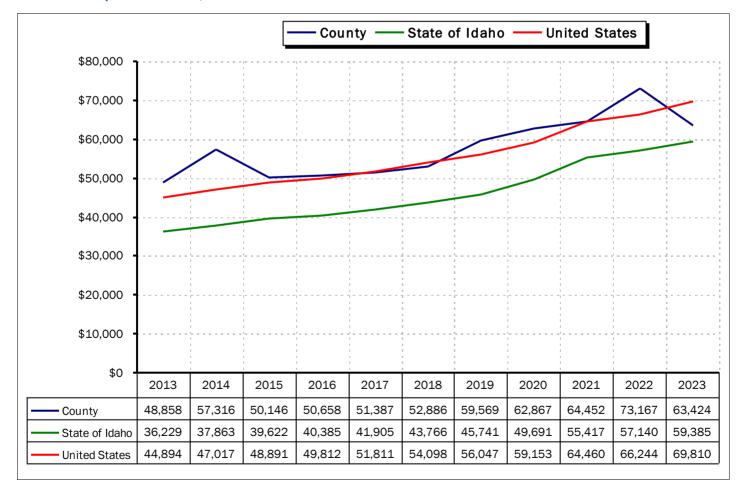
Source: Idaho Department of Labor- Quarterly Census of Employment Wages (QCEW)

6. Top Employers, 2024

Employer	Ownership	Employment Range
Glanbia Foods	Private	250 - 499
North Canyon Medical Center	Private	250 - 499
Bettencourt Dairies	Private	250 - 499
Gooding Joint School District	Local government	100 - 249
Riverence	Private	100 - 249
Wendell School District	Local government	100 - 249
Idaho Educational Services for the Deaf And The Blind	Local government	100 - 249
Gooding County	Local government	100 - 249
Mustang Forestry	Private	100 - 249
Wilbur-ellis Nutrition	Private	050 - 099

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)

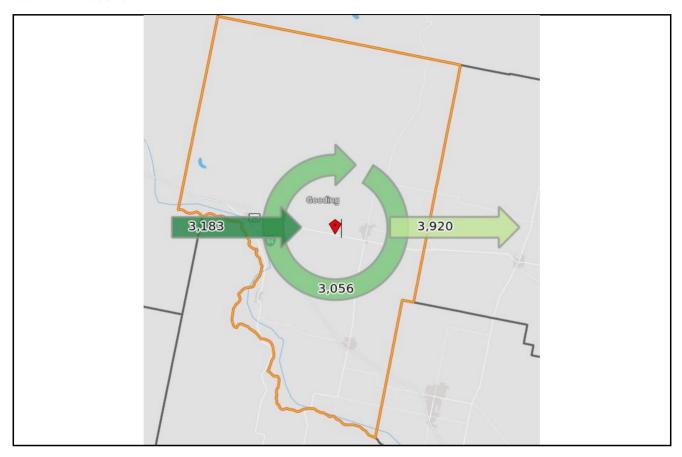
7. Real Per Capita Income, 2013 to 2023



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

8. Labor Force Commuting Patterns, 2022

It is estimated that 3,056 workers lived and worked in Gooding County in 2022. Another 3,183 workers were employed in Gooding County but lived outside, while 3,920 workers commuted to other counties for work.



Source: US Census Bureau

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

City of Residence	Count of All Jobs	Percentage of Total Jobs
Gooding	787	12.6%
Wendell	490	7.9%
Jerome	435	7.0%
Twin Falls	402	6.4%
Hagerman	180	2.9%
Buhl	140	2.2%
Bliss	55	0.9%
Shoshone	52	0.8%
Boise	44	0.7%
Idaho Falls	43	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 Gooding County Work, 2022

City of Employment	Count of All Jobs	Percentage of Total Jobs
Gooding	941	13.5%
Twin Falls	843	12.1%
Wendell	455	6.5%
Jerome	406	5.8%
Boise	286	4.1%
Hagerman	171	2.5%
Burley	92	1.3%
Hailey	90	1.3%
Nampa	85	1.2%
Bliss	84	1.2%

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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