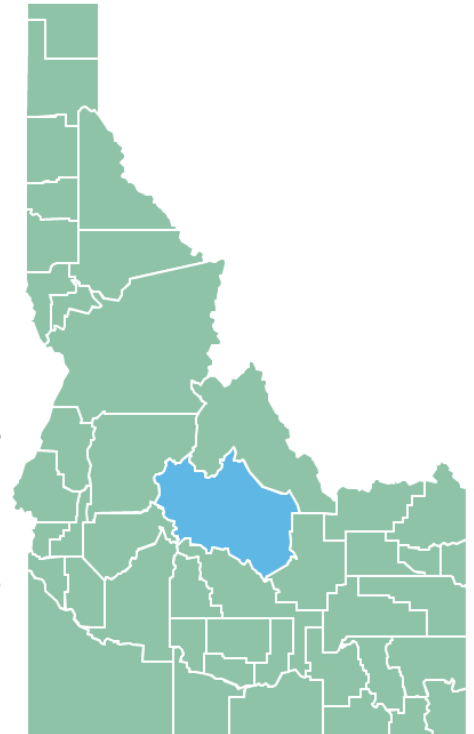


Custer County Labor Force And Economic Profile

Last Updated: January 2026

Custer County Economic Overview

Civilian Labor Force (Dec 2025)	1,909
Unemployment Rate (Dec 2025)	4.5%
Population (2024)	4,597
Median Household Income (2024)	\$67,574
Per Capita Personal Income (2023)	\$52,420
Poverty Rate (2024)	15.8%



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1. Custer County Demographic Characteristics, 2024 5-Year ACS

	Custer County	Custer County (%)	State of Idaho (%)	United States (%)
Total Population	4,470	100.0%	1,934,262	334,922,499
Race and Ethnicity				
White alone, not hispanic	3,985	89.1%	81.7%	61.0%
Black or African American alone, not hispanic	14	0.3%	0.8%	12.2%
Native American alone, not hispanic	17	0.4%	1.2%	0.9%
Asian alone, not hispanic	137	3.1%	1.4%	6.0%
Hispanic, or Latino (of any race)	201	4.5%	13.6%	19.3%
Gender				
Male	2,318	51.9%	50.3%	49.5%
Female	2,152	48.1%	49.7%	50.5%
Age				
Median age	60.0	-	37.3	38.9
Under 18 years	623	13.9%	24.1%	22.0%
Over 18 years	3,847	86.1%	75.9%	78.0%
21 years and over	3,678	82.3%	66.1%	68.9%
Over 65 years	1,634	36.6%	17.0%	17.2%
Educational Attainment (Population 25 years and Over)				
Less than 9th grade	12	0.3%	2.1%	3.2%
High school graduate (with equivalencies)	1,104	24.7%	17.3%	17.9%
Some college, no degree	851	19.0%	16.0%	13.1%
Associate's degree	423	9.5%	6.4%	6.1%
Bachelor's degree	823	18.4%	14.1%	14.9%
Graduate or professional degree	253	5.7%	7.0%	9.7%
Median Household Income	\$67,574	-	\$77,800	\$80,734

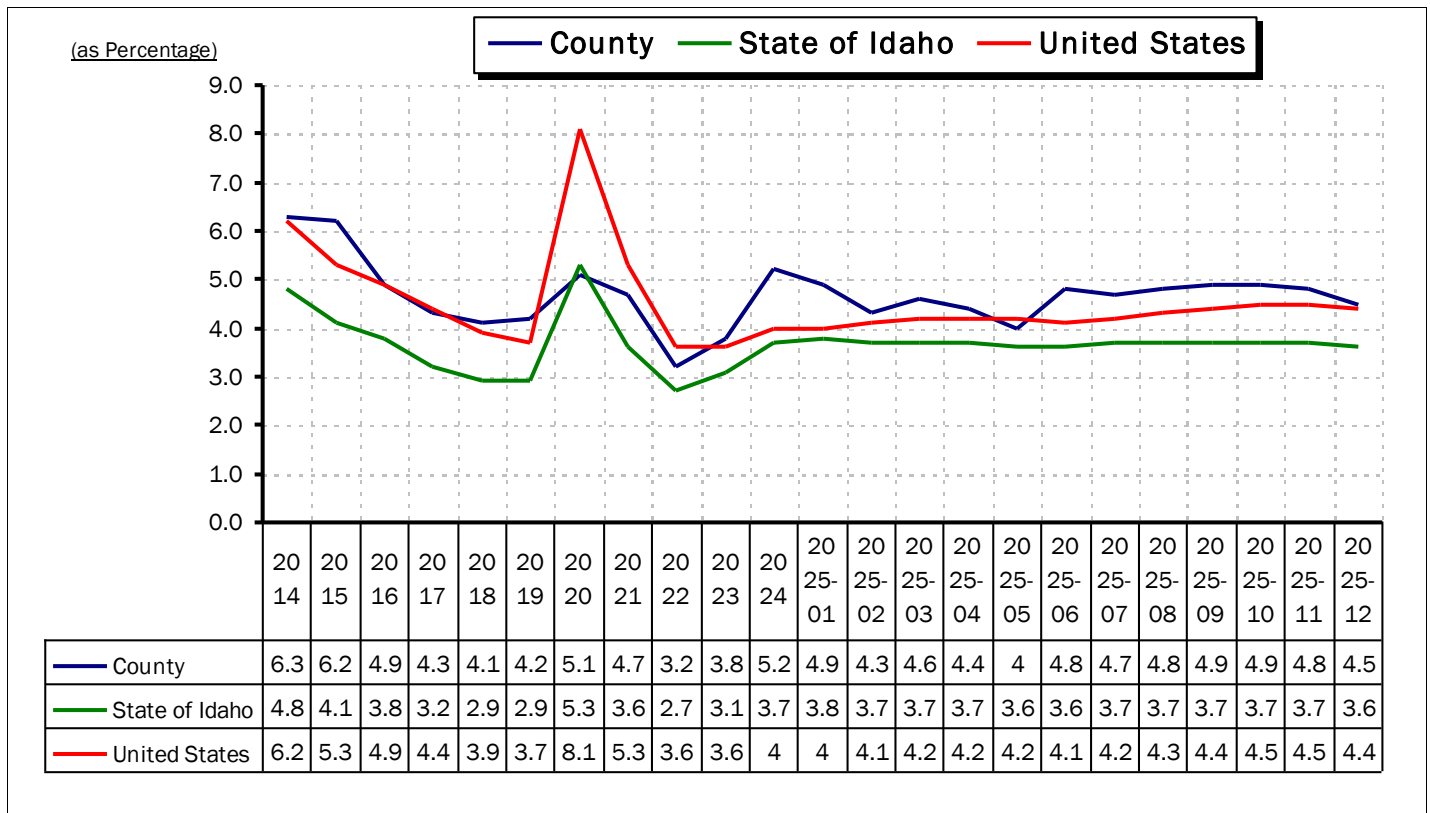
Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

2. Labor Force Growth, December 2024 to December 2025

	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
December 2025	1,909	1,823	86	4.5%
December 2024	1,822	1,723	99	5.4%
YoY % Change	4.8%	5.8%	-13.1%	-0.9%

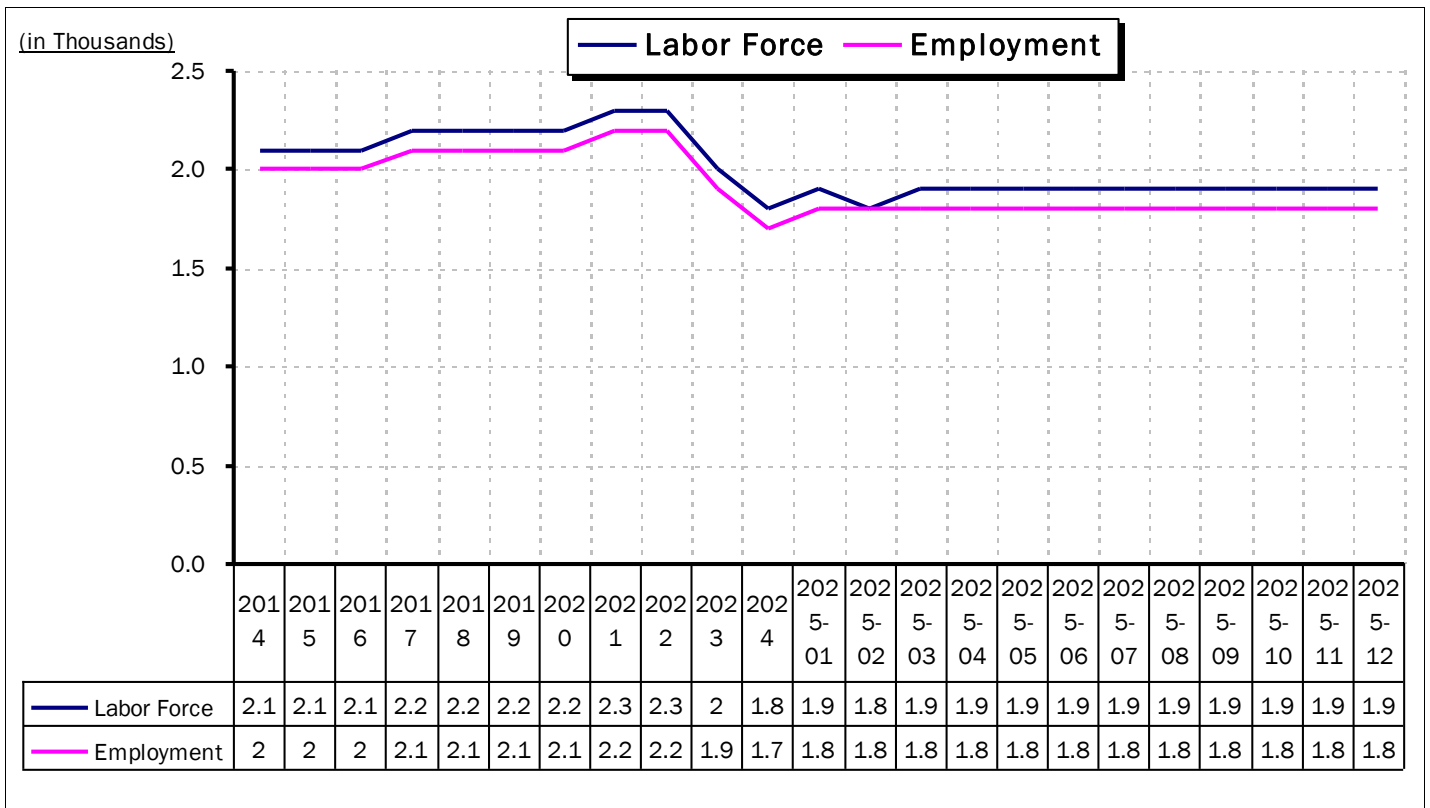
Source: Idaho Department of Labor- Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

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



Source: Idaho Department of Labor- Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), Note: October 2025 data is imputed

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



Source: Idaho Department of Labor- Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), Note: October 2025 data is imputed

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)

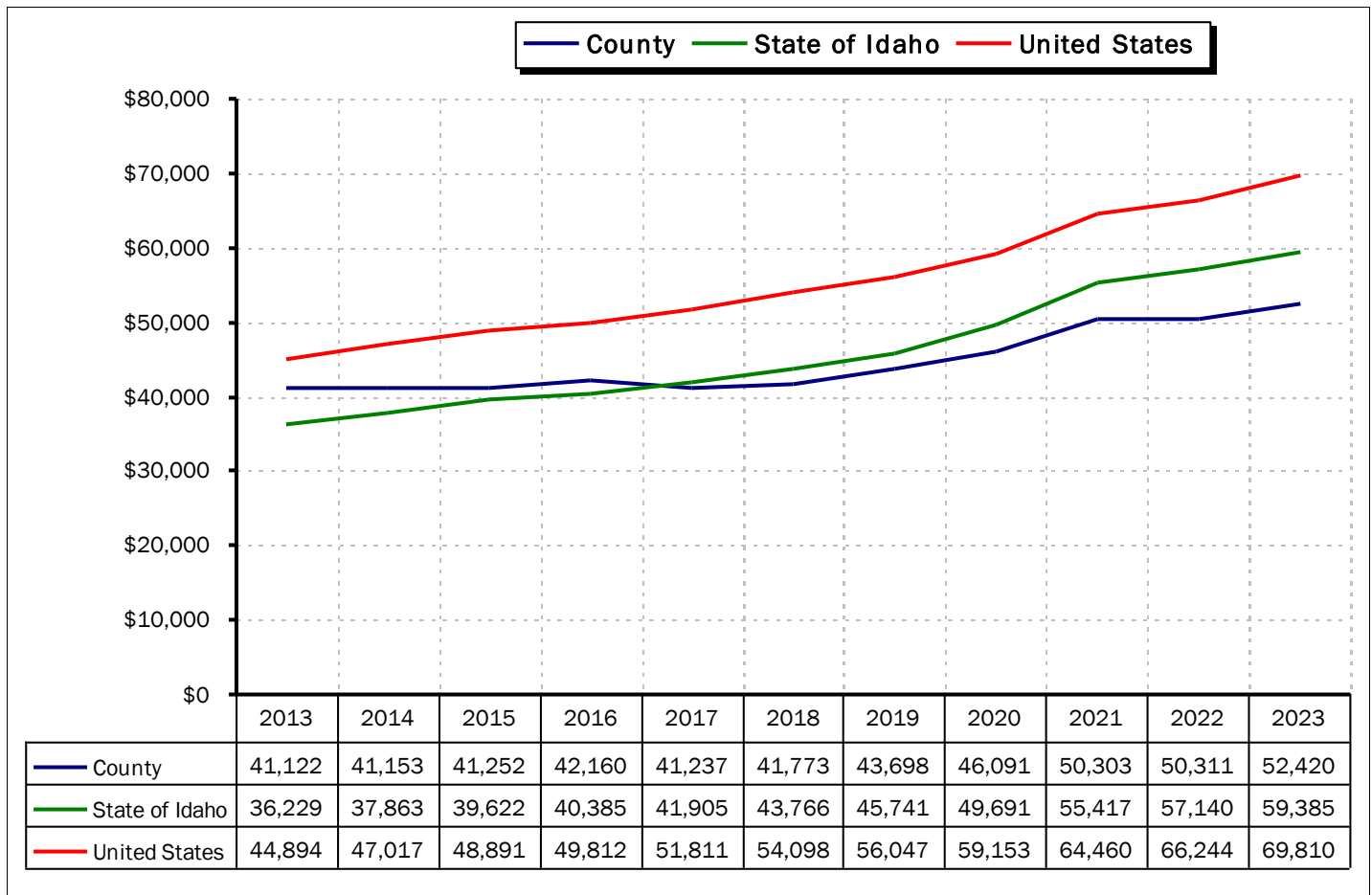
6. Top Employers, 2024

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)

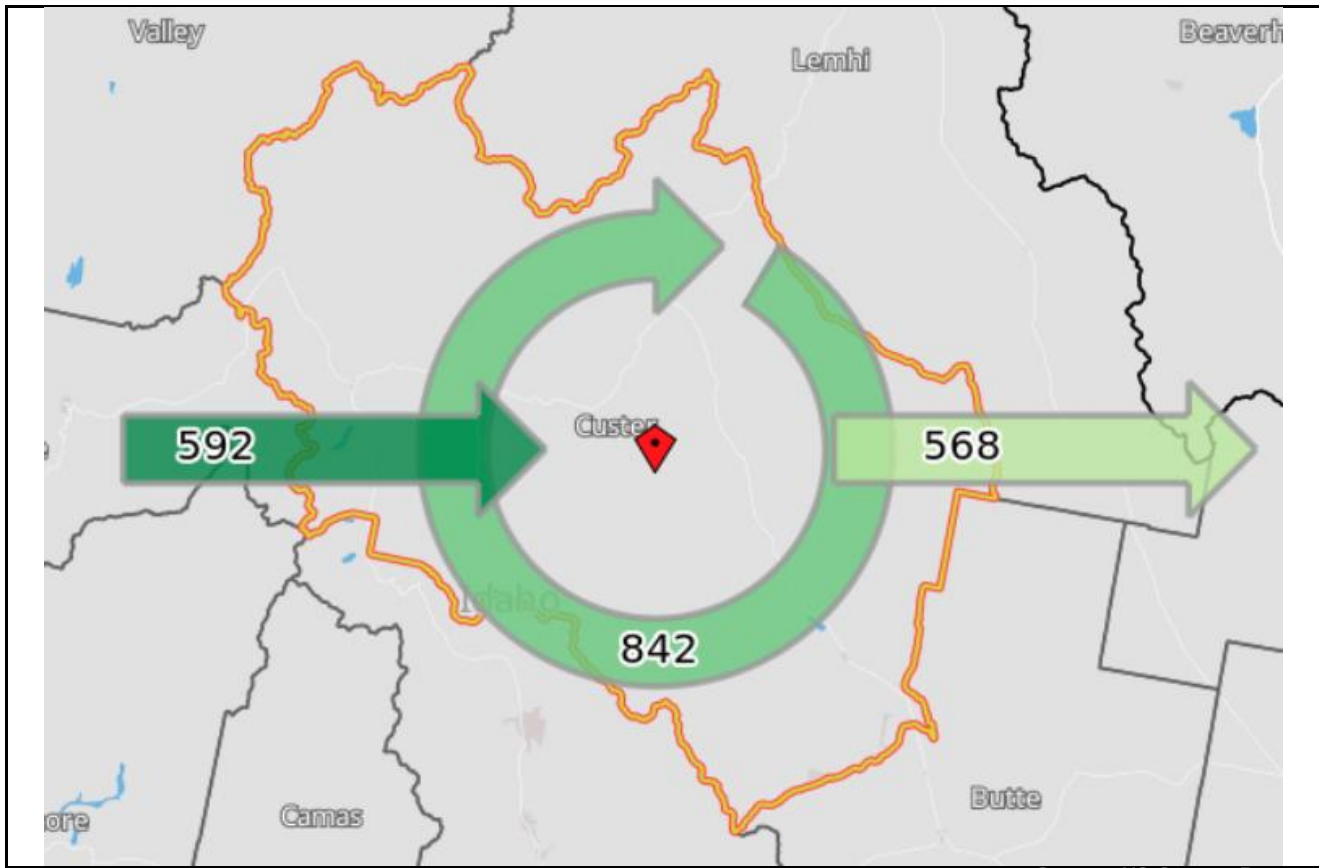
7. Real Per Capita Income, 2013 to 2023



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

8. Labor Force Commuting Patterns, 2023

It is estimated that 842 workers lived and worked in Custer County in 2023. Another 592 workers were employed in Custer County but lived outside, while 568 workers commuted to other counties for work.



Source: US Census Bureau

9. Top 10 Cities Where People Who Work in Custer County Live, 2023

City of Residence	Count of All Jobs	Percentage of Total Jobs
Challis	169	11.8%
Mackay	76	5.3%
Idaho Falls	30	2.1%
Stanley	28	2.0%
Salmon	27	1.9%
Arco	26	1.8%
Twin Falls	22	1.5%
Boise	19	1.3%
Hailey	18	1.3%
Ammon	9	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)

10. Top 10 Cities Where People Who Live in Custer County Work, 2023

City of Employment	Count of All Jobs	Percentage of Total Jobs
Challis	279	19.8%
Mackay	200	14.2%
Idaho Falls	122	8.7%
Boise	58	4.1%
Stanley	52	3.7%
Clayton	31	2.2%
Arco	24	1.7%
Salmon	21	1.5%
Pocatello	19	1.3%
Ketchum	16	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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