

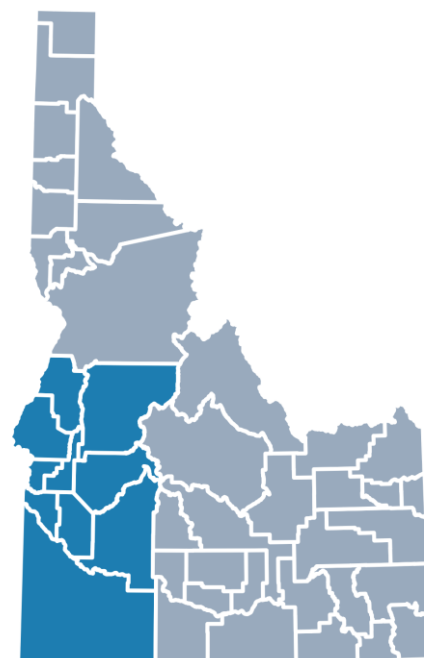


Southwest Idaho Labor Force And Economic Profile

Last Updated: September 2026

Southwest Idaho Economic Overview

Civilian Labor Force (Aug 2026)	491,923
Unemployment Rate (Aug 2026)	3.5%
Population (2025)	950,959
Median Household Income (2024)	\$70,069
Per Capita Personal Income (2024)	\$56,028
Poverty Rate (2024)	9.4%



Idaho Department of Labor

labor.idaho.gov



A proud partner of the
americanjobcenter
network

The Idaho Department of Labor is an equal opportunity employer and service provider. Reasonable accommodations are available upon request. Dial 711 for Idaho Relay Service.

1. Southwest Demographic Characteristics, 2024 5-Year ACS

	Southwest	Region (%)	State of Idaho (%)	United States (%)
Total Population	895,482	100.0%	1,934,262	334,922,499
Race and Ethnicity				
White alone, not hispanic	715,384	79.9%	81.7%	61.0%
Black or African American alone, not hispanic	9,897	1.1%	0.8%	12.2%
Native American alone, not hispanic	7,555	0.8%	1.2%	0.9%
Asian alone, not hispanic	17,840	2.0%	1.4%	6.0%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	134,534	15.0%	13.6%	19.3%
Gender				
Male	451,403	50.4%	50.3%	49.5%
Female	444,079	49.6%	49.7%	50.5%
Age				
Median age	43.3	-	37.3	38.9
Under 18 years	209,638	23.4%	24.1%	22.0%
Over 18 years	685,844	76.6%	75.9%	78.0%
21 years and over	606,759	67.8%	66.1%	68.9%
Over 65 years	147,613	16.5%	17.0%	17.2%
Educational Attainment (Population 25 years and Over)				
Less than 9th grade	19,049	2.1%	2.1%	3.2%
High school graduate (with equivalencies)	148,990	5.9%	17.3%	17.9%
Some college, no degree	140,483	15.7%	16.0%	13.1%
Associate's degree	52,942	5.9%	6.4%	6.1%
Bachelor's degree	144,344	16.1%	14.1%	14.9%
Graduate or professional degree	72,633	8.1%	7.0%	9.7%
Median Household Income	\$70,069	-	\$77,800	\$80,734

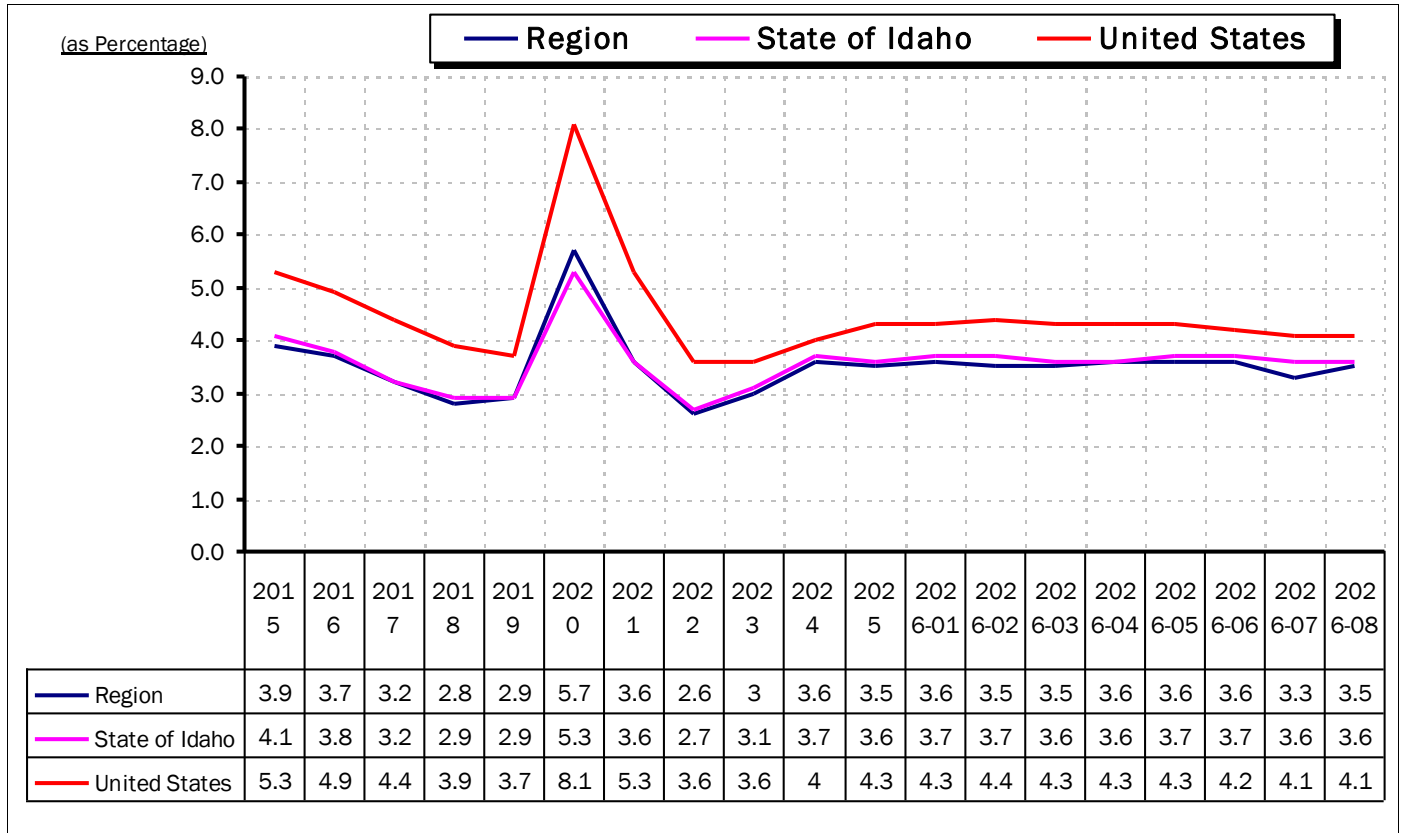
Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

2. Labor Force Growth, August 2025 to August 2026

	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
August 2026	491,923	474,934	16,989	3.5%
August 2025	493,601	476,360	17,241	3.5%
YoY % Change	-0.3%	-0.3%	-1.5%	0.0%

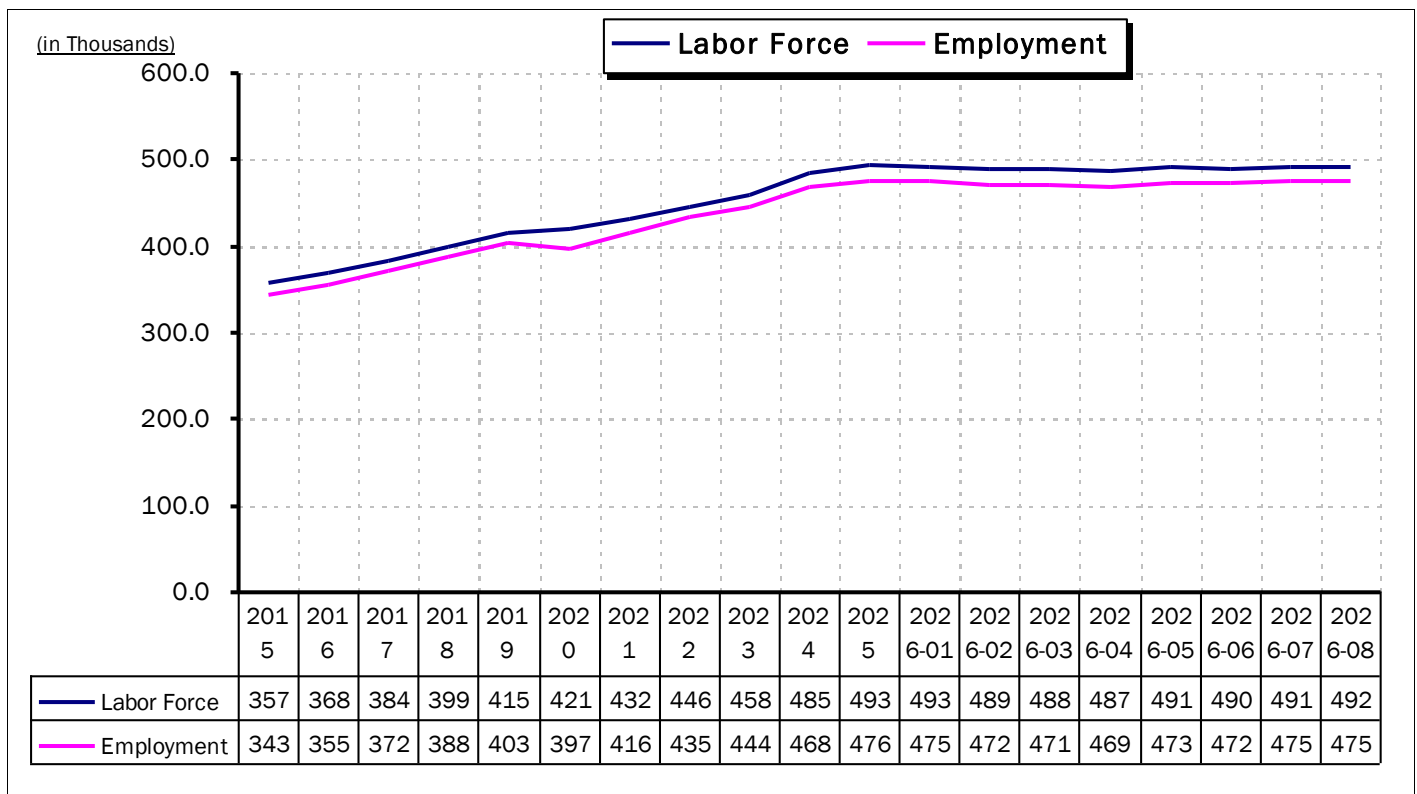
Source: Idaho Department of Labor- Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

3. Seasonally-Adjusted Unemployment Rate, 2015 to August 2026



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

4. Seasonally-Adjusted Labor Force and Employment 2015 to August 2026



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

5. Industry Employment and Wages, 2015, 2024, and 2025

Industry Sector	2015	2015	2024	2024	2025	2025
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
Total Covered Wages	303,399	\$41,794	409,489	\$64,624	418,308	\$67,545
Natural Resources and Mining	7,084	\$31,765	6,998	\$50,088	6,707	\$52,579
Construction	18,022	\$42,039	36,043	\$69,161	38,493	\$75,911
Manufacturing	27,367	\$65,979	33,046	\$98,645	32,803	\$111,790
Trade,Transportation, and Utilities	61,706	\$40,293	81,553	\$58,745	82,886	\$60,520
Information	5,239	\$47,325	4,422	\$106,636	4,143	\$108,173
Financial Activities	15,045	\$54,657	20,684	\$89,638	20,733	\$93,985
Professional and Business Services	40,300	\$43,992	56,790	\$81,500	56,626	\$85,296
Education and Health Services	68,177	\$40,684	90,418	\$57,459	94,896	\$58,391
Leisure and Hospitality	30,833	\$15,796	44,188	\$25,818	44,798	\$26,459
Other Services	8,401	\$27,644	11,675	\$46,489	11,761	\$48,236
Public Administration	21,223	\$50,387	23,619	\$73,351	24,281	\$72,572

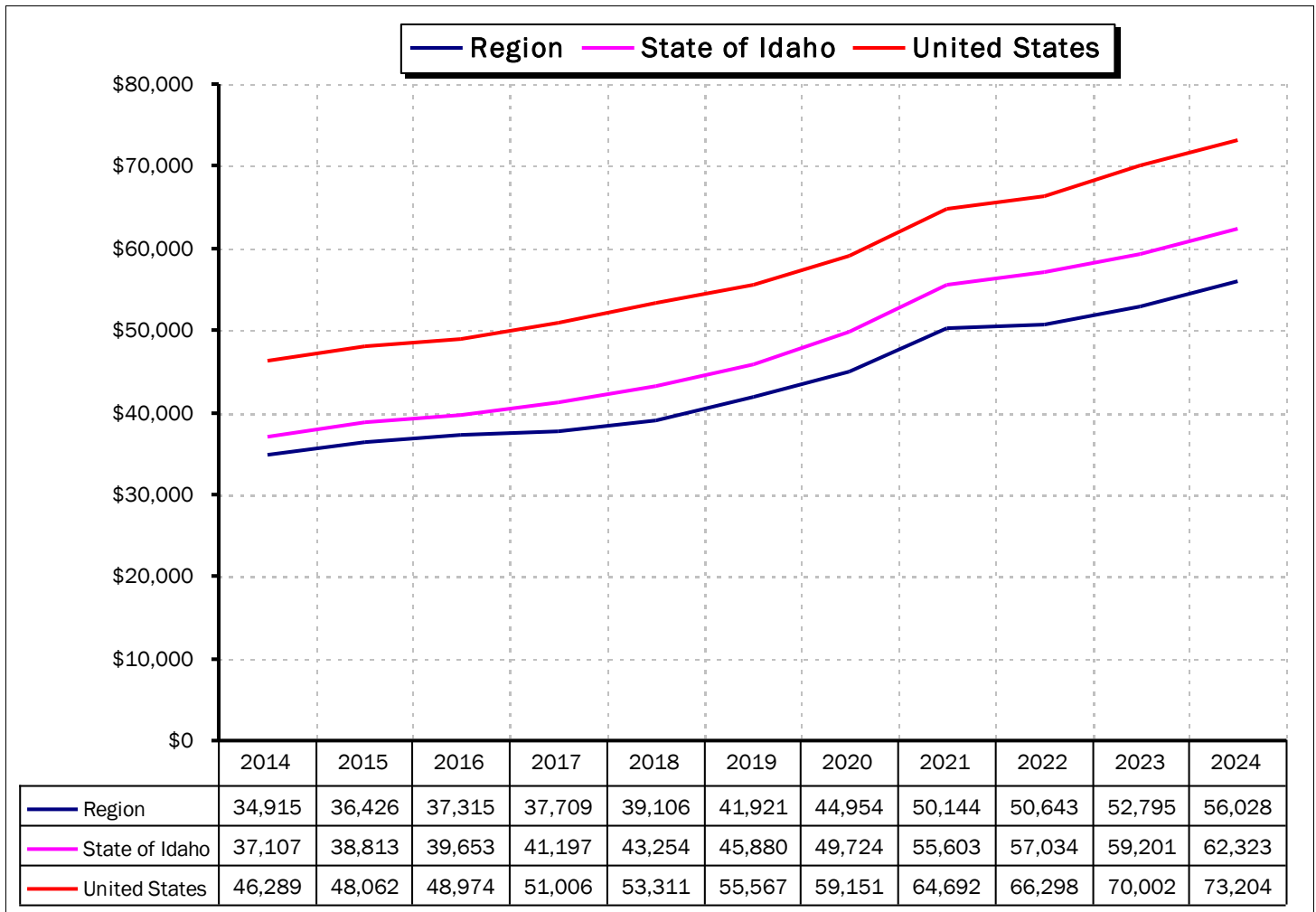
Source: Idaho Department of Labor- Quarterly Census of Employment Wages (QCEW)

6. Top Employers, 2025

Employer	Ownership	Employment Range
Saint Luke's Regional Medical Center	Private	7,500 - 9,999
Saint Alphonsus Health System Inc	Private	5,000 - 7,499
Boise State University	State Government	5,000 - 7,499
Micron Technology Inc	Private	5,000 - 7,499
West Ada Joint School District	Local Government	2,500 - 4,999
Albertsons LLC	Private	2,500 - 4,999
Walmart	Private	2,500 - 4,999
Boise Independent School District	Local Government	2,500 - 4,999
Warm Springs Golf Course	Local Government	2,500 - 4,999
JR Simplot	Private	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. Per Capita Income, 2014 to 2024



8. Labor Force Commuting Patterns, 2023

It is estimated that 376,636 workers lived and worked in Southwest Idaho in . Another 38,235 workers were employed in Southwest Idaho but lived outside, while 35,032 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, 2023

City of Residence	Count of All Jobs	Percentage of Total Jobs
Boise	108,339	26.1%
Meridian	56,015	13.5%
Nampa	46,898	11.3%
Caldwell	27,826	6.7%
Kuna	13,168	3.2%
Eagle	12,200	2.9%
Star	5,514	1.3%
Mountain Home	4,788	1.2%
Garden City	4,167	1.0%
Middleton	4,106	1.0%

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, 2023

City of Employment	Count of All Jobs	Percentage of Total Jobs
Boise	169,640	41.2%
Meridian	56,609	13.8%
Nampa	47,209	11.5%
Caldwell	19,319	4.7%
Eagle	12,211	3.0%
Garden City	9,621	2.3%
Kuna	4,225	1.0%
Mountain Home	2,786	0.7%
Twin Falls	2,469	0.6%
McCall	2,107	0.5%

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:

Knox Freedman, Labor Economist, Idaho Department of Labor • 317 West Main Street, Boise, ID 83735 • (208) 696 - 2547 • knox.freedman@labor.idaho.gov • Labor Market Information website: lmi.idaho.gov

--- Blank Page ---