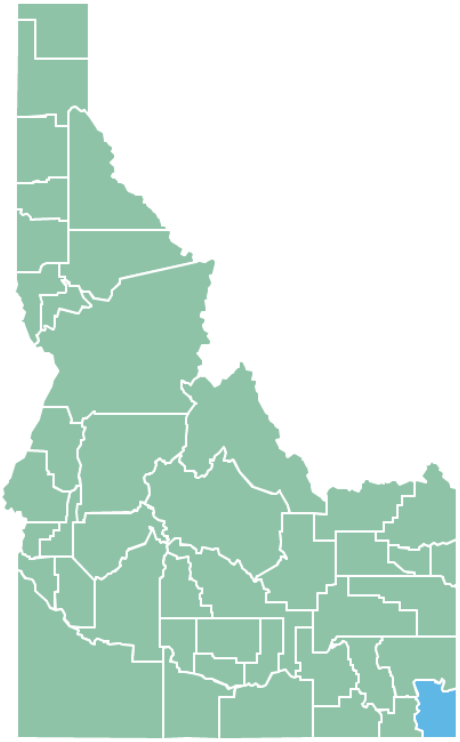
Bear Lake County Labor Force And Economic Profile

Last Updated: October 2026

Bear Lake County Economic Overview

Civilian Labor Force (Sep 2026)	3,278
Unemployment Rate (Sep 2026)	3.2%
Population (2025)	6,727
Median Household Income (2024)	$75,260
Per Capita Personal Income (2024)	$52,688
Poverty Rate (2024)	7.0%



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1. Bear Lake County Demographic Characteristics, 2024 5-Year ACS

	Bear Lake County	Bear Lake County (%)	State of Idaho (%)	United States (%)
Total Population	6,650	100.0%	1,934,262	334,922,499
Race and Ethnicity				
White alone, not hispanic	6,329	95.2%	81.7%	61.0%
Black or African American alone, not hispanic	33	0.5%	0.8%	12.2%
Native American alone, not hispanic	36	0.5%	1.2%	0.9%
Asian alone, not hispanic	14	0.2%	1.4%	6.0%
Hispanic, or Latino (of any race)	254	3.8%	13.6%	19.3%
Gender				
Male	3,384	50.9%	50.3%	49.5%
Female	3,266	49.1%	49.7%	50.5%
Age				
Median age	40.5	-	37.3	38.9
Under 18 years	1,820	27.4%	24.1%	22.0%
Over 18 years	4,830	72.6%	75.9%	78.0%
21 years and over	4,337	65.2%	66.1%	68.9%
Over 65 years	1,410	21.2%	17.0%	17.2%
Educational Attainment (Population 25 years and Over)				
Less than 9th grade	52	0.8%	2.1%	3.2%
High school graduate (with equivalencies)	1,453	21.8%	17.3%	17.9%
Some college, no degree	1,146	17.2%	16.0%	13.1%
Associate's degree	471	7.1%	6.4%	6.1%
Bachelor's degree	677	10.2%	14.1%	14.9%
Graduate or professional degree	259	3.9%	7.0%	9.7%
Median Household Income	$75,260	-	$77,800	$80,734

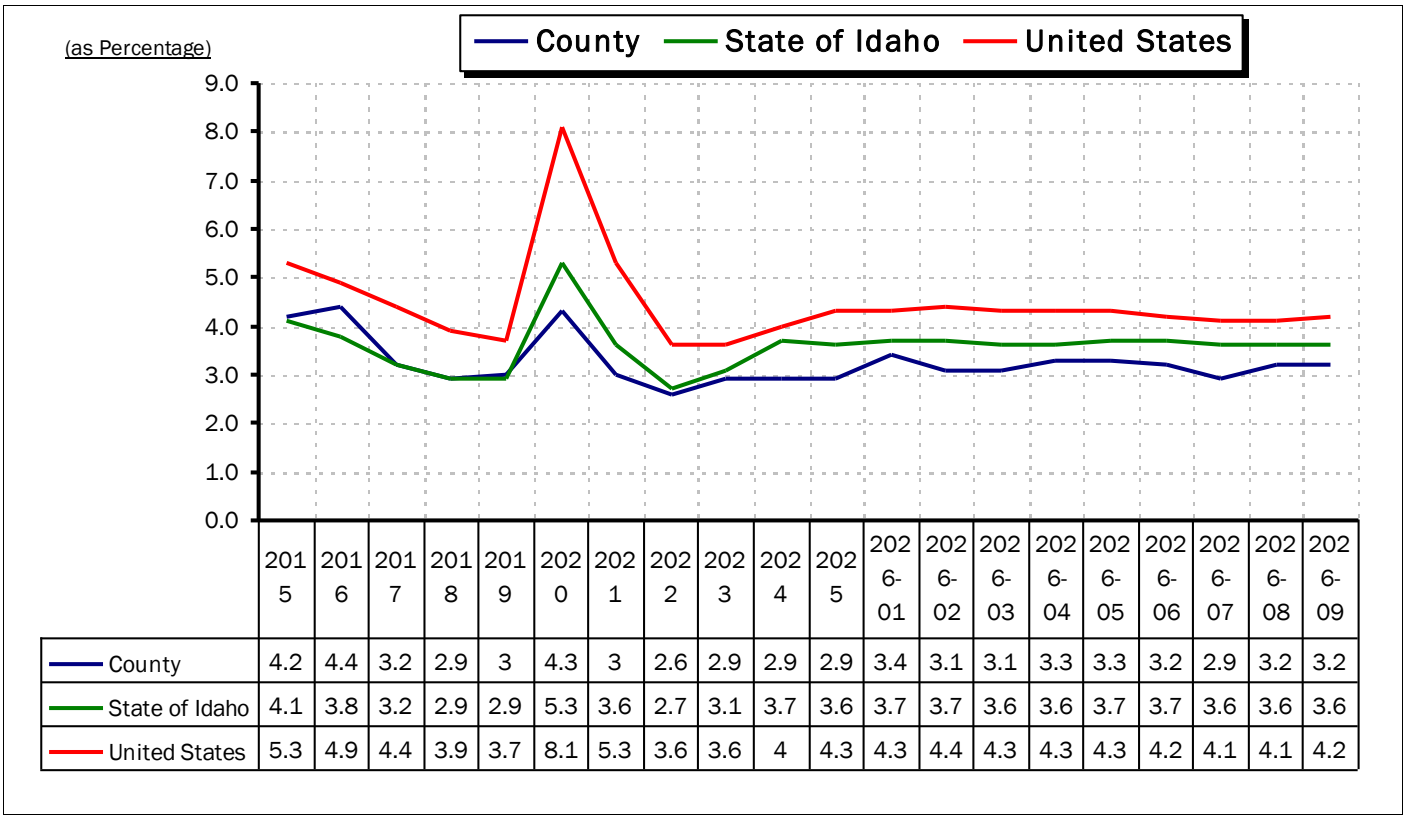
Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

2. Labor Force Growth, September 2025 to September 2026

	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
September 2026	3,278	3,172	106	3.2%
September 2025	3,314	3,215	99	3.0%
YoY % Change	-1.1%	-1.3%	7.1%	0.2%

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

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



	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026-01	2026-02	2026-03	2026-04	2026-05	2026-06	2026-07	2026-08	2026-09
County	4.2	4.4	3.2	2.9	3	4.3	3	2.6	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.4	3.1	3.1	3.3	3.3	3.2	2.9	3.2	3.2
State of Idaho	4.1	3.8	3.2	2.9	2.9	5.3	3.6	2.7	3.1	3.7	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.6
United States	5.3	4.9	4.4	3.9	3.7	8.1	5.3	3.6	3.6	4	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.2

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

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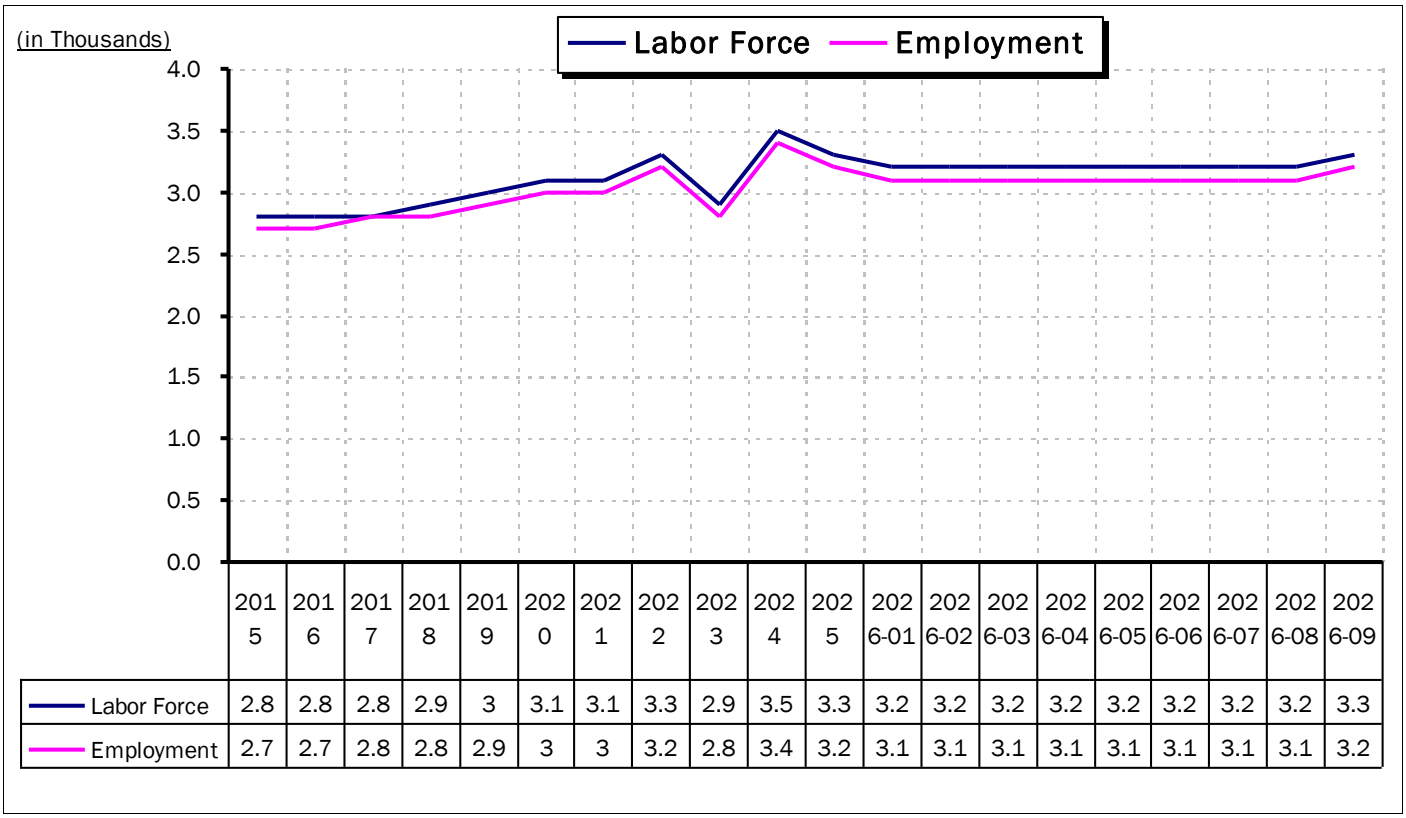


	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026-01	2026-02	2026-03	2026-04	2026-05	2026-06	2026-07	2026-08	2026-09
Labor Force	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.9	3	3.1	3.1	3.3	2.9	3.5	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.3
Employment	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.9	3	3	3.2	2.8	3.4	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.2

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

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

Supersector	2015 Average Employment	2015 Average Wages	2024 Average Employment	2024 Average Wages	2025 Average Employment	2025 Average Wages
Total Covered Wages	1,632	$27,293	1,993	$40,127	2,008	$40,813
Natural Resources and Mining	6	$89,899				
Construction	36	$22,496	89	$40,313	92	$41,620
Manufacturing	49	$33,907	67	$53,120	62	$56,154
Trade,Transportation, and Utilities	326	$25,739	388	$33,270	388	$34,988
Information	30	$15,550	13	$39,078	13	$71,304
Financial Activities	43	$33,263	57	$53,222	63	$45,316
Professional and Business Services	130	$35,946	331	$46,768	331	$43,991
Education and Health Services	557	$29,979	599	$47,146	617	$48,638
Leisure and Hospitality	259	$13,818	225	$14,681	223	$15,740
Other Services	20	$27,266	32	$32,977	34	$32,806
Public Administration	176	$32,804	174	$44,324	172	$44,728

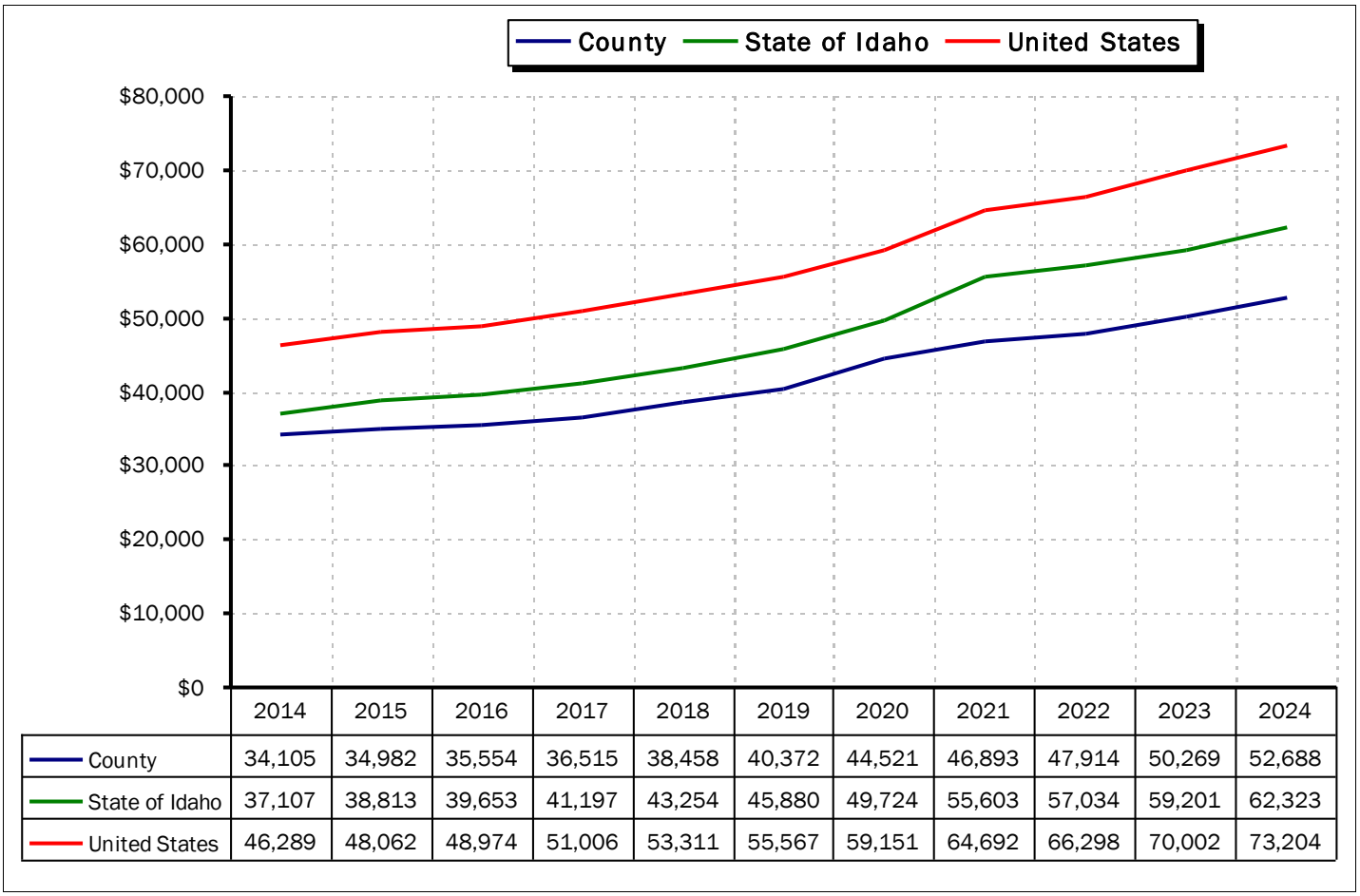
Source: Idaho Department of Labor- Quarterly Census of Employment Wages (QCEW)

6. Top Employers, 2025

Employer	Ownership	Employment Range
Bear Lake County Memorial Hospital	Local Government	250 - 499
Bear Lake County School District	Local Government	100 - 249
Bear Lake County	Local Government	050 - 099
Broulims Supermarkets Inc	Private	050 - 099
Arctic Circle	Private	050 - 099
Resource Management Inc	Private	010 - 049
Ranch Hand Trail Stop Llc	Private	010 - 049
Us Department Of Agriculture	Federal Government	010 - 049
Canyon Inn Monpelier Inc	Private	010 - 049
Coopers	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. Per Capita Income, 2014 to 2024

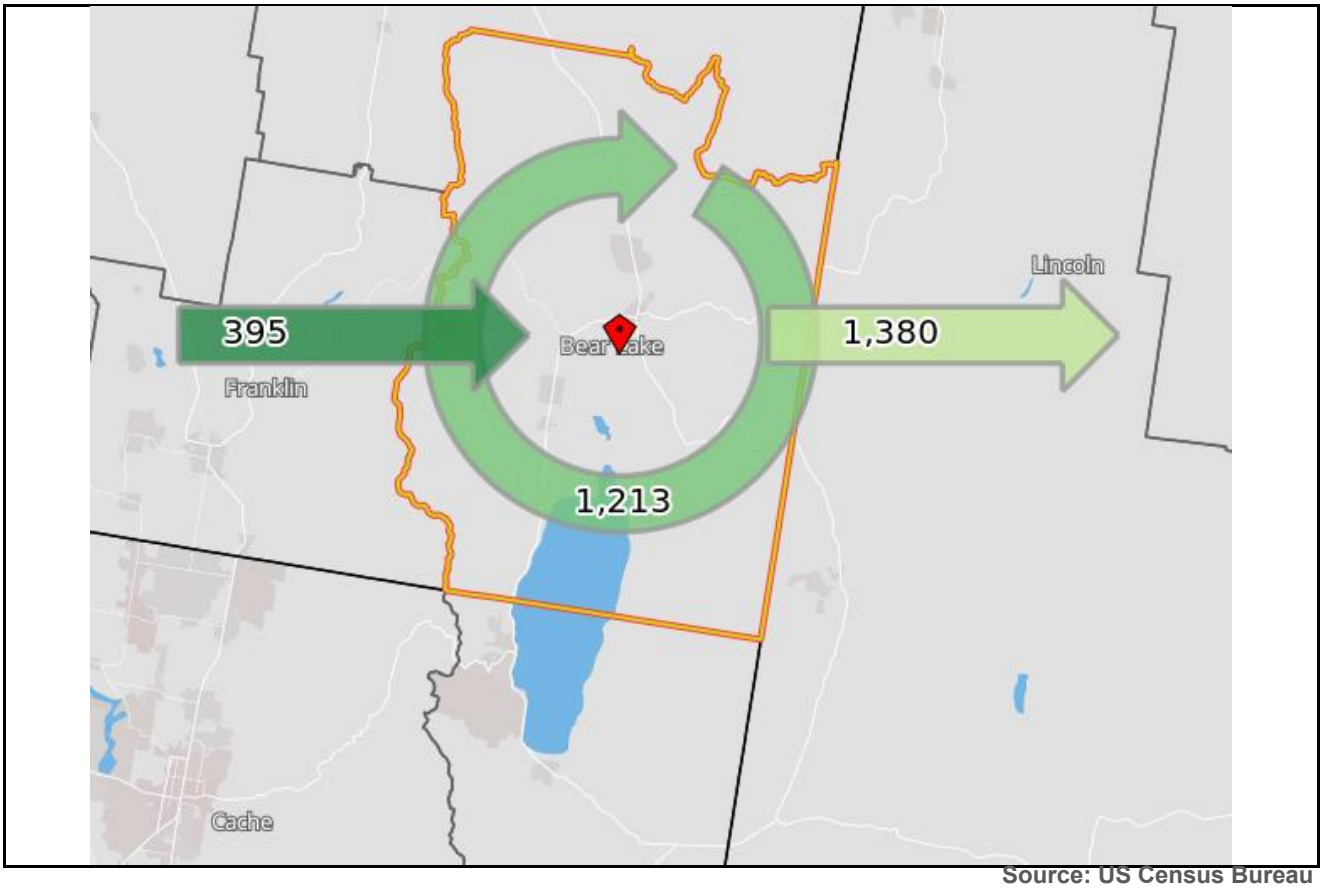


	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
County	34,105	34,982	35,554	36,515	38,458	40,372	44,521	46,893	47,914	50,269	52,688
State of Idaho	37,107	38,813	39,653	41,197	43,254	45,880	49,724	55,603	57,034	59,201	62,323
United States	46,289	48,062	48,974	51,006	53,311	55,567	59,151	64,692	66,298	70,002	73,204

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

8. Labor Force Commuting Patterns, 2023

It is estimated that 1,213 workers lived and worked in Bear Lake County in 2023. Another 395 workers were employed in Bear Lake County but lived outside, while 1,380 workers commuted to other counties for work.



Source: US Census Bureau

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

City of Residence	Count of All Jobs	Percentage of Total Jobs
Montpelier	587	36.5%
Georgetown	78	4.9%
Paris	69	4.3%
Bennington	54	3.4%
Pocatello	36	2.2%
St. Charles	31	1.9%
Bloomington	28	1.7%
Idaho Falls	15	0.9%
Preston	14	0.9%
Chubbuck	12	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 Bear Lake County Work, 2023

City of Employment	Count of All Jobs	Percentage of Total Jobs
Montpelier	820	31.6%
Soda Springs	188	7.3%
Paris	164	6.3%
Pocatello	90	3.5%
Boise	86	3.3%
Garden City	81	3.1%
Idaho Falls	59	2.3%
Meridian	31	1.2%
Twin Falls	31	1.2%
Logan	27	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)

For more Information, Contact:

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