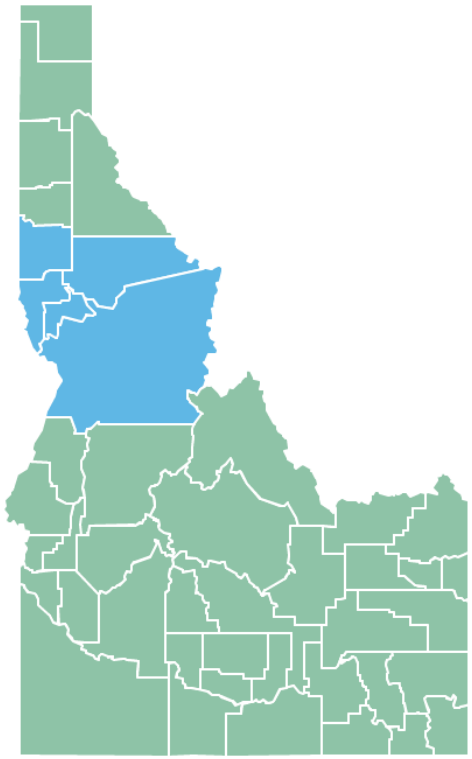


North Central Idaho Labor Force And Economic Profile

Last Updated: November 2026

North Central Idaho Economic Overview

Civilian Labor Force (Oct 2026)	54,964
Unemployment Rate (Oct 2026)	4.0%
Population (2025)	115,443
Median Household Income (2024)	$63,193
Per Capita Personal Income (2024)	$53,756
Poverty Rate (2024)	14.2%



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1. North Central Demographic Characteristics, 2024 5-Year ACS

	North Central	Region (%)	State of Idaho (%)	United States (%)
Total Population	113,872	100.0%	1,934,262	334,922,499
Race and Ethnicity				
White alone, not hispanic	100,000	87.8%	81.7%	61.0%
Black or African American alone, not hispanic	568	0.5%	0.8%	12.2%
Native American alone, not hispanic	2,643	2.3%	1.2%	0.9%
Asian alone, not hispanic	1,457	1.3%	1.4%	6.0%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	5,263	4.6%	13.6%	19.3%
Gender				
Male	58,114	51.0%	50.3%	49.5%
Female	55,758	49.0%	49.7%	50.5%
Age				
Median age	44.5	-	37.3	38.9
Under 18 years	22,416	19.7%	24.1%	22.0%
Over 18 years	91,456	80.3%	75.9%	78.0%
21 years and over	76,775	67.4%	66.1%	68.9%
Over 65 years	23,857	21.0%	17.0%	17.2%
Educational Attainment (Population 25 years and Over)				
Less than 9th grade	1,477	1.3%	2.1%	3.2%
High school graduate (with equivalencies)	22,086	7.1%	17.3%	17.9%
Some college, no degree	18,822	16.5%	16.0%	13.1%
Associate's degree	8,080	7.1%	6.4%	6.1%
Bachelor's degree	15,240	13.4%	14.1%	14.9%
Graduate or professional degree	7,987	7.0%	7.0%	9.7%
Median Household Income	$63,193	-	$77,800	$80,734

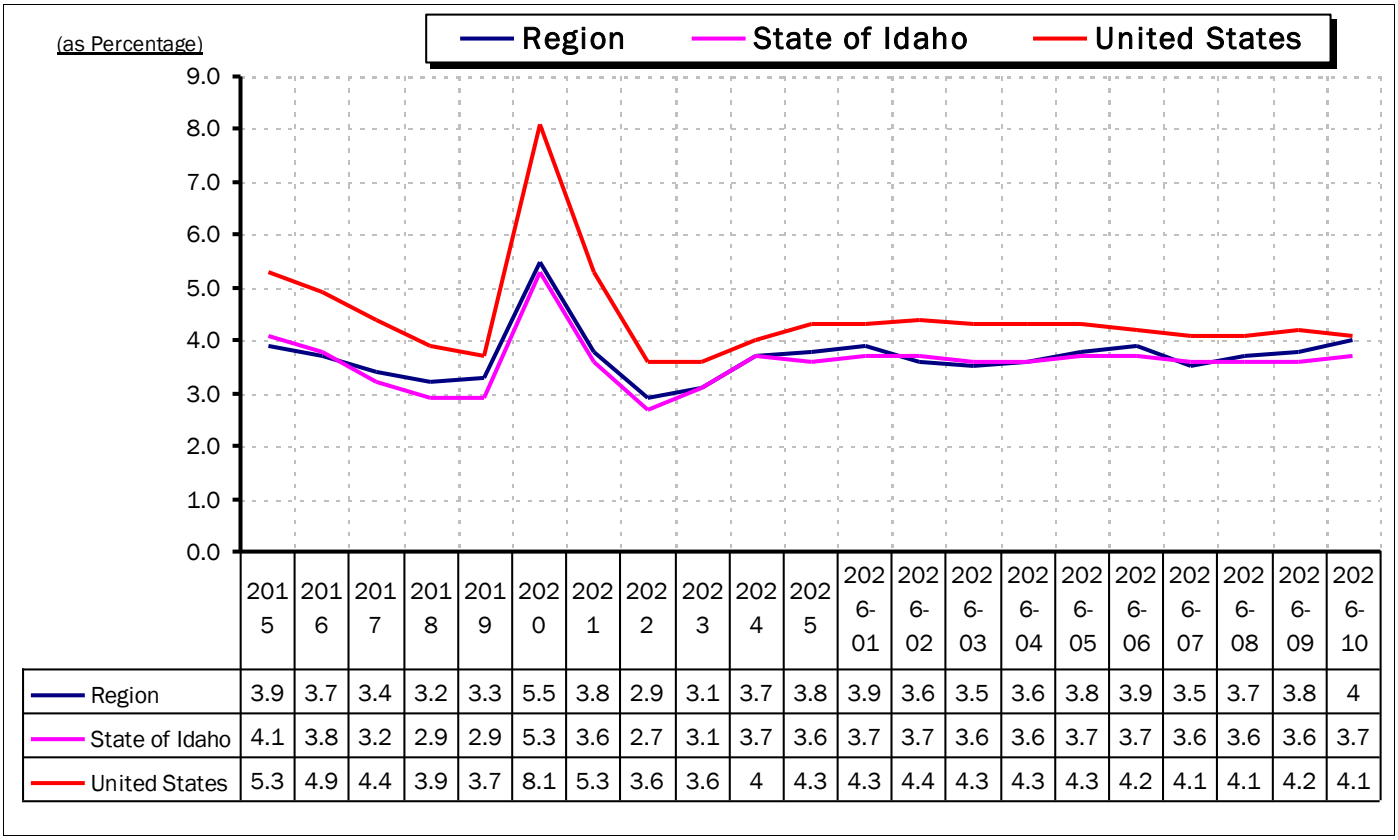
Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

2. Labor Force Growth, October 2025 to October 2026

	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
October 2026	54,964	52,771	2,193	4.0%
October 2025	54,403	52,314	2,089	3.8%
YoY % Change	**1.0%**	**0.9%**	**5.0%**	**0.2%**

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

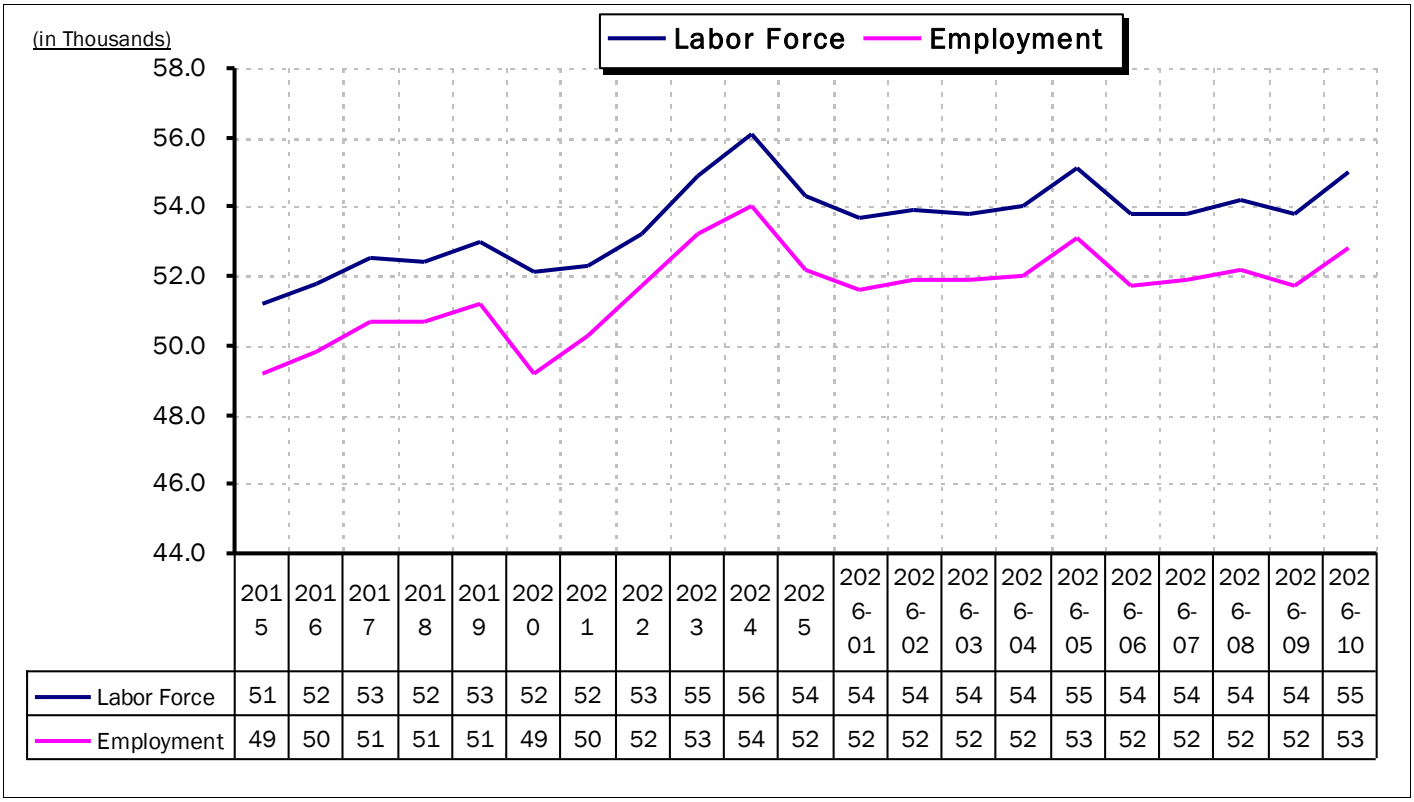
3. Seasonally-Adjusted Unemployment Rate, 2015 to October 2026



	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	2026-10
Region	3.9	3.7	3.4	3.2	3.3	5.5	3.8	2.9	3.1	3.7	3.8	3.9	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.8	3.9	3.5	3.7	3.8	4
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	3.7
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	4.1

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

4. Seasonally-Adjusted Labor Force and Employment 2015 to October 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	2026-10
Labor Force	51	52	53	52	53	52	52	53	55	56	54	54	54	54	54	55	54	54	54	54	55
Employment	49	50	51	51	51	49	50	52	53	54	52	52	52	52	52	53	52	52	52	52	53

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

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

Industry Sector	2015 Average Employment	2015 Average Wages	2024 Average Employment	2024 Average Wages	2025 Average Employment	2025 Average Wages
Total Covered Wages	42,727	$36,770	45,490	$51,468	45,602	$52,989
Natural Resources and Mining	1,315	$44,661	1,129	$62,397	1,137	$64,216
Construction	1,761	$36,295	2,594	$55,746	2,586	$60,430
Manufacturing	4,892	$51,867	5,729	$67,181	5,600	$69,507
Trade,Transportation, and Utilities	8,016	$32,786	7,739	$42,864	7,671	$44,263
Information	620	$31,800	610	$64,633	555	$54,253
Financial Activities	1,893	$46,239	1,976	$72,631	1,971	$74,587
Professional and Business Services	2,171	$35,795	2,420	$60,924	2,528	$62,662
Education and Health Services	13,028	$38,036	13,855	$51,845	14,060	$53,231
Leisure and Hospitality	4,576	$14,828	4,830	$21,472	4,813	$22,147
Other Services	970	$23,929	1,085	$38,037	1,094	$38,888
Public Administration	3,484	$46,006	3,519	$61,335	3,572	$62,843

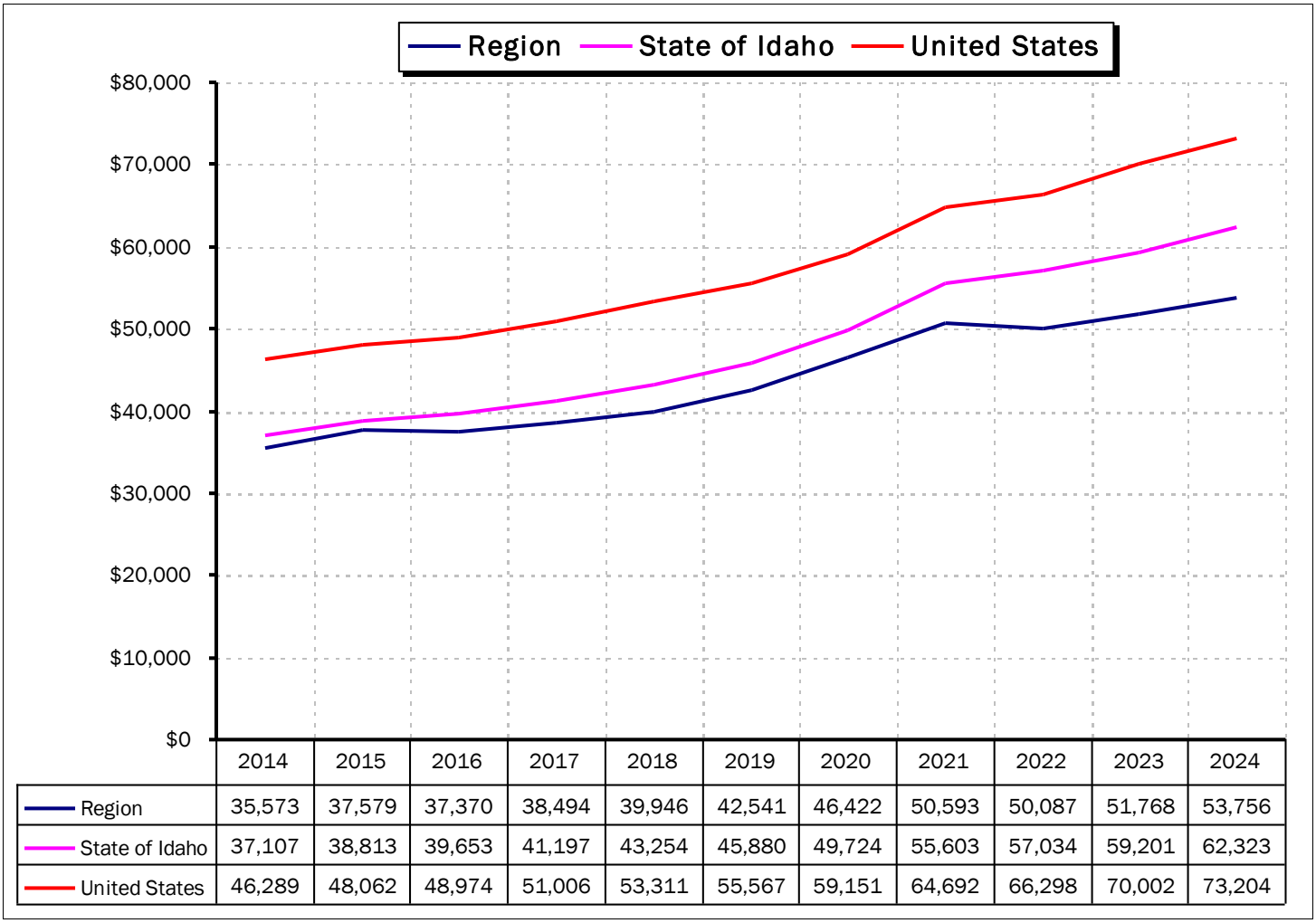
Source: Idaho Department of Labor- Quarterly Census of Employment Wages (QCEW)

6. Top Employers, 2025

Employer	Ownership	Employment Range
University of Idaho	State Government	2,500 - 4,999
Federal Cartridge Co	Private	1,000 - 2,499
Nez Perce Approval Committee	Local Government	1,000 - 2,499
Lewiston School District	Local Government	500 - 999
Clearwater Paper Corporation	Private	500 - 999
Moscow Hospital Association In	Private	500 - 999
Lewis-Clark State	State Government	500 - 999
Moscow School District	Local Government	250 - 499
Idaho Forest Group	Private	250 - 499
Happy Day Corp	Private	250 - 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)

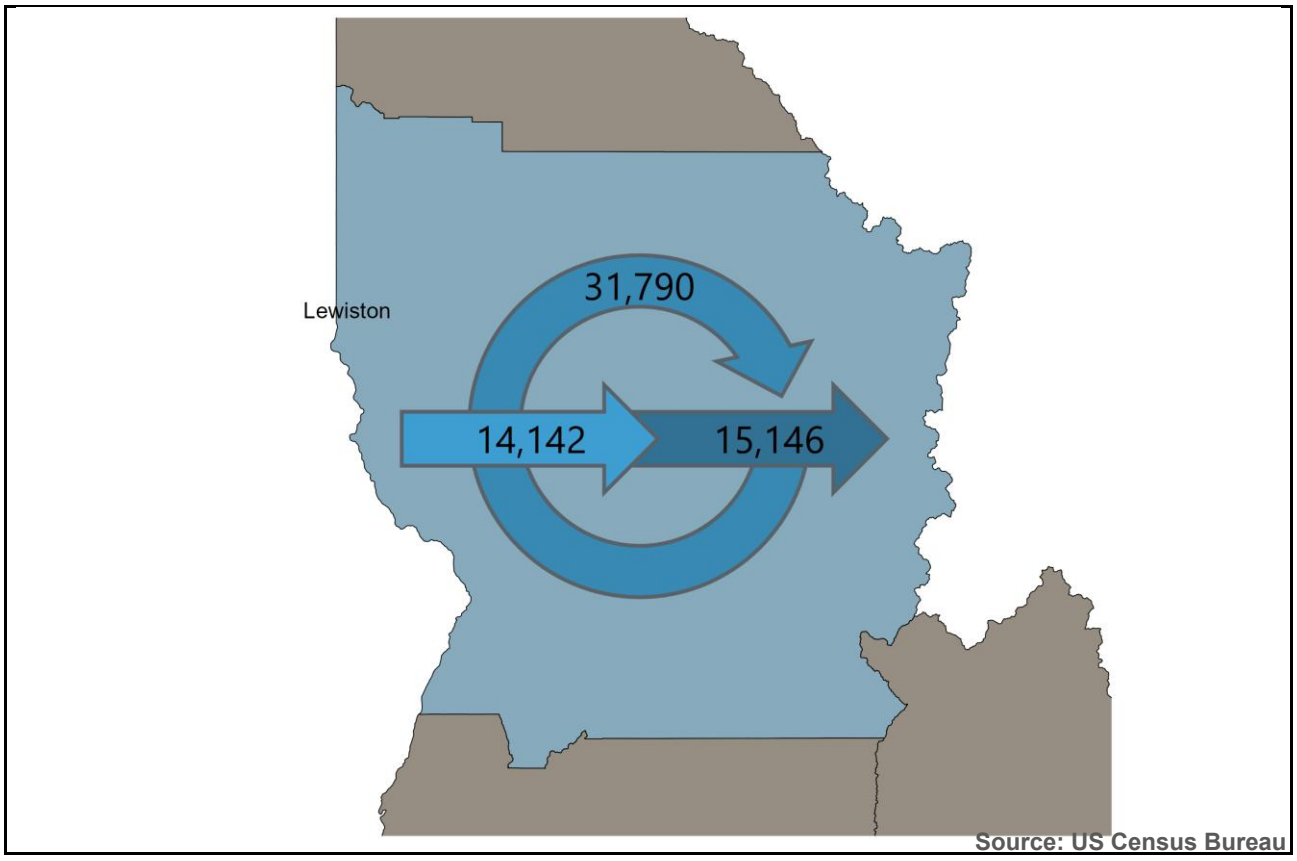
7. Per Capita Income, 2014 to 2024



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Region	35,573	37,579	37,370	38,494	39,946	42,541	46,422	50,593	50,087	51,768	53,756
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

8. Labor Force Commuting Patterns, 2024

It is estimated that 31,790 workers lived and worked in North Central Idaho in . Another 14,142 workers were employed in North Central Idaho but lived outside, while 15,146 workers lived in the area but commuted outside for work.



9. Top 10 Cities Where People Who Work in North Central Idaho Live, 2024

City of Residence	Count of All Jobs	Percentage of Total Jobs
Lewiston city, ID	10,764	23.4%
Moscow city, ID	7,748	16.9%
Pullman city, WA	3,205	7.0%
Grangeville city, ID	1,525	3.3%
Clarkston city, WA	1,382	3.0%
Orofino city, ID	1,373	3.0%
Boise City city, ID	1,306	2.8%
Coeur d'Alene city, ID	857	1.9%
Kamiah city, ID	582	1.3%
Cottonwood city, ID	544	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)

10. Top 10 Cities Where People Who Live in North Central Idaho Work, 2024

City of Employment	Count of All Jobs	Percentage of Total Jobs
Lewiston city, ID	11,402	24.3%
Moscow city, ID	6,430	13.7%
Clarkston city, WA	1,282	2.7%
Clarkston Heights-Vineland CDP, WA	1,149	2.4%
West Clarkston-Highland CDP, WA	1,046	2.2%
Pullman city, WA	1,021	2.2%
Grangeville city, ID	954	2.0%
Boise City city, ID	606	1.3%
Orofino city, ID	593	1.3%
Coeur d'Alene city, ID	509	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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