

AT A GLANCE: IDAHO COUNTY



Square Miles: 8,485
 County Seat: Grangeville (3,200)
 Established in 1864

POPULATION

2010 Census
16,276

2018 Estimate
16,513

2025 / 2030 Projection
16,441 / 16,457

Females
47.5%

Males
52.5%

Minority
9.3%

Median Age
50.2

Age 65+
2,414

Age 15-64
11,444

Under 15
2,655

HOUSING

Median Home Value
\$164,600

Homeowner Vacancy Rate
 3.7%

Rental Vacancy Rate
 7.4%

Occupied Housing Units
 6,480

Assisted Living Facilities
 3

HIGHER EDUCATION

University of Idaho
 Lewis-Clark State College

LARGEST PRIVATE SECTOR EMPLOYERS

1. St. Mary's Hospital & Clinics
2. Idaho Forest Group
3. Syringa General Hospital & Clinics
4. Advanced Welding & Steel
5. Pacific Cabinets

ECONOMIC

Median Household Income
 \$40,299

Per Capita Income
 \$20,741

County Property Tax
 \$0.71 per \$100 Value

% of Families Below Poverty Level
 7.0%

Food Insecurity Rate:

COUNTY
13.6%

REGION
14.7%

INDUSTRIES

Job Comparison	2013	2018	Change in Jobs	2018 Pay Per Job
Agriculture and Forestry	121	129	8	\$32,350
Mining	67	76	9	\$47,063
Construction	351	377	26	\$33,893
Manufacturing	391	459	68	\$43,639
Trade, Utilities, and Transportation	867	836	-31	\$32,737
Financial Activities	183	152	-31	\$38,506
Professional and Business Services	116	103	-13	\$41,371
Education and Healthcare	1,024	1,069	45	\$35,425
Leisure and Hospitality	363	371	8	\$13,369
Information and Other Services	126	99	-27	\$24,853
Public Administration	608	593	-15	\$52,082

Sources
 US Census Bureau, 2013-2017 ACS
 Stats America: Measuring Distress
 Idaho Department of Labor
 National Association of Realtors
 Feeding America Map the Meal Gap 2018
 Google

Idaho County traditionally depended on natural resources—farming, ranching, logging, Forest Service, and wood products—but has diversified its economy over the last 25 years.

The forest cluster is half as large today as it was 15 years ago. The U.S. Forest Service employment averages 280 people a month, while wood products manufacturing employs more than 210 people and other parts of the cluster employ 130 people.

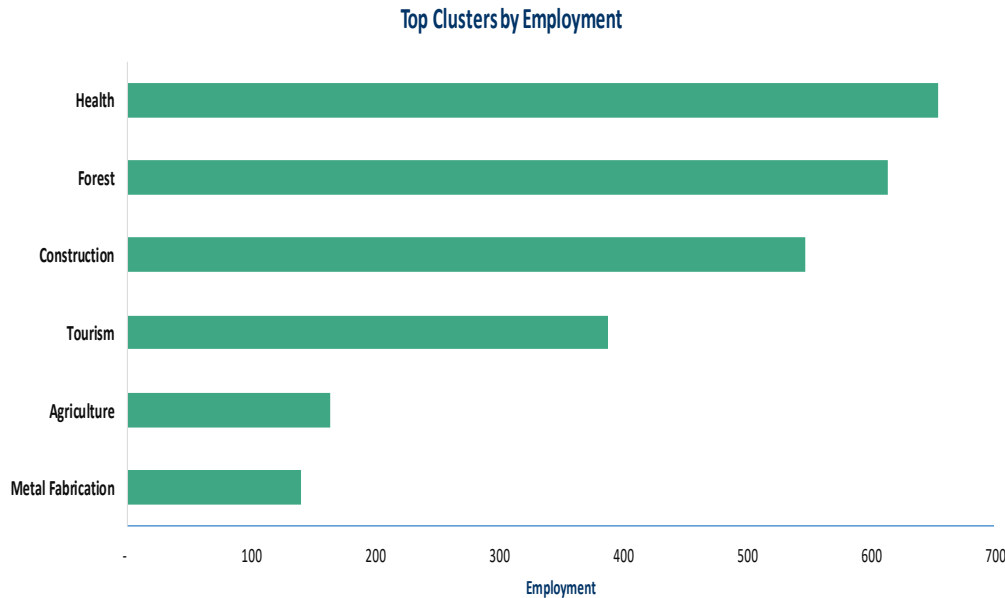
Other manufacturing has grown in recent years with the creation and growth of Idaho Sewing for Sport, Advanced Welding and Steel, Pacific Cabinets, Uhling Products, and several machine shops. Today, non-wood manufacturers employ about 340 people, up from 80 in 1993.

Although its mountains, forests and rivers offer breath-taking scenery and exciting recreational opportunities, the county is just beginning to fully tap its tourism potential. Its lodging, restaurant, and tourist shops have become more sophisticated in recent years. In 2018, they employed 390.

The health care sector more than doubled in the last 15 years. Today, it employs about 660 people.

Other large employers include the state minimum-security prison on the Cottonwood Butte and the Bureau of Land Management headquartered in Cottonwood. Together, they employ more than 100 people.

The Ida-Lew Economic Development Council (www.ida-lew.org) is the nonprofit organization that recruits new businesses, help existing businesses expand, and otherwise strengthens and diversifies the economic base of Idaho and Lewis counties.



Source: Idaho Department of Labor

DID YOU KNOW?

Geographically, Idaho County is the largest of Idaho's 44 counties. It is larger than the 13 smallest counties added together.

The county was named for the steamboat Idaho that was launched in 1860 on the Columbia River and served miners during the region's first gold rush.

The battle that started the Nez Perce War was fought in White Bird Canyon on June 17, 1877 in Idaho Territory. The battle was a significant defeat of the U.S. Army.

Since the 1950s, Cottonwood Butte has been home to an Air Force station, then a Job Corps training camp, and since the mid-1970s a minimum-security prison.

Riggins was once known as Gouge Eye after gold miners got in a vicious saloon fight in the 1860s. It lies between the two deepest gorges in North America.

The Salmon River historically produced 45 percent of the steelhead and 45 percent of the chinook salmon in the Columbia River Basin.

The Monastery of St. Gertrude near Cottonwood—a home to Benedictine nuns for more than 110 years—runs a history museum, a retreat center, and a bed and breakfast. The museum's founder Sister Alfreda Elsonsohn wrote a biography of Polly Bemis, a woman born in China who lived in the mining camp at Warren. Polly's story was the subject of a 1991 film "A Thousand Pieces of Gold."