

ECONOMY



Agriculture in Canyon County

Photo Courtesy: Boise Convention & Visitors Bureau

Labor Force and Wages

	Labor Force				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Civilian Labor Force	675,828	682,861	690,799	703,067	738,739
Unemployment	32,920	36,903	36,578	33,339	28,183
Percent Unemployed	4.9%	5.4%	5.3%	4.7%	
3.8%					
Total Employment	642,908	645,958	654,222	669,728	710,556

Source: *Work Force Trends*, Idaho Department of Commerce & Labor

Labor Force and Employment (2005)

Civilian Labor Force	738,739
Employment	710,556
Unemployment	28,183
Unemployment Rate	3.8%
Agricultural Employment	41,200
Non-Farm Payroll Jobs *	611,704
Goods Producing	112,353
Natural Resources & Mining	4,135
Construction	45,169
Manufacturing	63,049
Wood Product Manufacturing	7,631
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	3,906
Machinery Manufacturing	2,606
Computer and Electronic Product Mfg.	16,180
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	2,845
Food Manufacturing	14,712
Paper Manufacturing	1,592
Printing and Related Support Activities	1,900
Chemical Manufacturing	1,936
Other Manufacturing	9,742
Service Producing	499,351
Trade	103,686
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	19,293
Information	11,072
Financial Activities	29,658
Professional & Business Services	76,913
Educational & Health Services	67,990
Leisure & Hospitality	57,356
Other Services	18,477
Federal Government	13,071
State & Local Government Administration	47,579
State & Local Public Education	51,274
Local Government Tribes	2,982

Source: *Idaho Facts*, Idaho Department of Commerce & Labor

County Labor Force (2005)

Ada	189,003	Cassia	10,157	Lewis	1,773
Adams	1,897	Clark	524	Lincoln	2,564
Bannock	41,002	Clearwater	3,388	Madison	15,145
Bear Lake	3,147	Custer	2,629	Minidoka	9,642
Benewah	4,121	Elmore	10,862	Nez Perce	19,096
Bingham	21,653	Franklin	6,263	Oneida	2,237
Blaine	14,336	Fremont	6,234	Owyhee	4,914
Boise	3,763	Gem	7,429	Payette	10,384
Bonner	20,772	Gooding	8,333	Power	3,820
Bonneville	49,351	Idaho	7,202	Shoshone	5,827
Boundary	4,306	Jefferson	10,692	Teton	4,455
Butte	1,244	Jerome	10,121	Twin Falls	37,646
Camas	614	Kootenai	67,631	Valley	4,709
Canyon	79,076	Latah	18,296	Washington	5,007
Caribou	3,354	Lemhi	4,121		

Source: *Idaho Facts*, Idaho Department of Commerce & Labor

Idaho's Ranking in Employment & Labor

		Ranking	
	Value	US	NW*
Average Annual Pay (2004)	\$29,871	46	6
Unemployment Rate (2005)	3.4%	45	6
Labor Force: % Women (2004)	61.3%	19	4
Job Growth (2004-2005)	4.7%	2	2
% Emp: Construction (2005)	7.6%	3	2
% Emp: Government (2005)	18.6%	14	3
% Emp: Leisure & Hospitality (2005)	9.2%	24	6
% Emp: Manufacturing (2005)	10.1%	23	3
% Emp: Mining (2005)	0.7%	13	4
% Emp: Prof. & Business Services (2005)	12.7%	14	2

*NW Rank: Idaho's rank relative to the state's six neighbors: Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, Oregon and Washington. Values are Ranked from High to Low (Highest = 1)

Source: *Idaho Fiscal Facts 2006*, Legislative Services Office

Income (2004)

	Per Capita		Per Capita
Ada	\$36,543	Gem	20,806
Adams	24,311	Gooding	31,070
Bannock	23,971	Idaho	21,039
Bear Lake	20,579	Jefferson	21,071
Benewah	23,378	Jerome	27,538
Bingham	21,485	Kootenai	25,297
Blaine	45,635	Latah	25,223
Boise	21,943	Lemhi	22,312
Bonner	22,658	Lewis	26,969
Bonneville	27,888	Lincoln	22,550
Boundary	19,064	Madison	15,945
Butte	23,035	Minidoka	19,441
Camas	25,090	Nez Perce	27,274
Canyon	19,945	Oneida	18,168
Caribou	24,250	Owyhee	21,269
Cassia	24,733	Payette	22,248
Clark	23,806	Power	21,027
Clearwater	24,418	Shoshone	24,083
Custer	23,757	Teton	22,168
Elmore	24,499	Twin Falls	25,217
Franklin	21,235	Valley	30,947
Fremont	20,464	Washington	21,229

Source: *Idaho Facts*, Idaho Department of Commerce & Labor

Per Capita Income	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
State of Idaho	\$24,075	\$25,018	\$25,597	\$25,902	\$27,098
United States	\$29,845	\$30,575	\$30,804	\$31,472	\$32,937

Source: *Work Force Trends*, Idaho Department of Commerce & Labor

Annual Percent Labor Force Unemployed

1995	5.2
1996	5.3
1997	5.1
1998	5.1
1999	4.9
2000	4.6
2001	4.9
2002	5.4
2003	5.3
2004	4.7
2005	3.8

Source: *Work Force Trends*, Idaho Department of Commerce & Labor

Average Hourly Earnings by Industry (2004)

Construction	\$14.95
Manufacturing	\$19.95
Retail Trade	\$10.72
Wholesale Trade	\$17.76
Transportation & Warehousing	\$13.00
Financial Activities	\$17.56
Professional & Business Services	\$15.64
Educational & Health Services	\$13.65
Leisure & Hospitality Services	\$5.48
Information	\$17.51

Source: *Idaho At A Glance*, Idaho Department of Commerce & Labor

Median Hourly Wage by Occupation (2005)

Financial managers	\$26.23
General & operations managers	24.58
Computer Programmers	25.07
Computer systems analysts	29.53
Electronics engineers	35.90
Accountants & auditors	20.50
Retail salespersons	8.96
Office clerks, general	10.74
Cashiers	7.84
Executive secretaries & administrative assistants	13.76
Receptionists & information clerks	10.02
Assemblers & fabricators	8.56
Electricians	21.30
Helpers, construction trades	10.43
Carpenters	14.05
Welders, cutters, solderers & brazers	13.88
Truck Drivers, heavy & tractor trailer	14.52
Logging equipment operators	18.19
Crushing, grinding & polishing machine setters, operators & tenders	13.09
Janitors & cleaners	8.73
Registered nurses	22.66
Child, family & school social workers	13.80
Medical & clinical lab technicians	13.90
Nursing aides, orderlies & attendants	8.83
Cooks, restaurant	8.36

Source: *Idaho At A Glance*, Idaho Department of Commerce & Labor

Agriculture (2004)

	Value	Ranking	
		US	NW*
Number of Farms	25,000	32	4
Average Acres per Farm	472	14	5
Acres Planted	4,219,000	23	2
Acres Harvested	4,048,000	22	2
Farm Income: Gov't Pymts	\$153,028,000	27	3
Farm Income: Crops	\$1,818,681,000	20	3
Farm Income: Livestock	\$2,530,574,000	18	1

* NW Rank: Idaho's rank relative to the state's six neighbors: Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, Oregon and Washington.

Source: *Idaho Fiscal Facts 2006*, Legislative Services Office

Number of Farms and Land in Farms

	Land in Farms	
	Farms	Average Acres
1970	28,500	544
1980	24,400	623
1985	24,600	589
1987	23,000	600
1990	21,800	628
1991	21,400	631
1992	21,000	643
1993*	23,500	519
1994	23,500	519
1995	23,500	519
1996	24,000	504
1997	24,000	490
1998	24,500	490
1999	24,500	486
2000	24,500	486
2001	24,000	482
2002	25,000	472
2003	25,000	472
2004 (preliminary)	25,000	472

*new definition of farm

Source: *Idaho Facts*, Idaho Department of Commerce & Labor



Farmers Market in Downtown Boise

Photo Courtesy: Boise Convention & Visitors Bureau

Idaho's Position in the Nation's Agriculture (2004)

	U.S. Rank	Percent of U.S.	Cash Receipts (Thousands)
CROPS			
Potatoes	1	29	554,274*
Austrian Winter Peas	1	64	NA
Wrinkled Seed Peas	2	19	NA
Barley	2	21	176,410*
Sugarbeets	2	18	216,980
All Mint	3	15	15,174
Hops	3	9	8,264
Onions (summer storage)	3	16	58,544
Plums & Prunes (fresh)	3	16	2,401
Lentils	4	18	11,473
Dry Edible Peas	4	8	6,919
Dry Edible Beans	4	9	31,666
Alfalfa Hay	5	6	514,480*
Spring Wheat	5	7	143,227*
Sweet Cherries	5	1	4,323
Winter Wheat	6	4	214,200*
All Wheat	8	5	357,427*
Apples	9	1	11,967
All Hay	11	3	556,690*
Livestock & Livestock Products			
Trout	1	73	32,564
Total Cheese	3	8	NA
Milk Production	5	5	1,358,400
Milk Cows	6	5	NA
All Sheep & Lambs	7	4	20,949
Wool	8	6	1,870
Honey	8	3	6,363*
All Cattle & Calves	15	2	1,059,388

* value of production

Source: *Idaho Facts*, Idaho Department of Commerce & Labor

Cash Receipts from Farm Marketings (2004) By commodities (thousands of dollars)

	Value	% All Commodities
Crops	\$1,818,680	41.8%
Livestock & Livestock Products	2,530,574	58.2%
Total Production Value	\$4,349,254	100.0%

Source: *Idaho Facts*, Idaho Department of Commerce & Labor

Health and Education (2004-2005)

Health

Number of Licensed Hospitals	48
Number of Optometrists	238
Number of Chiropractic Physicians	453
Number of Physicians	2,536
Number of Dentists	854

Education

Public Schools	
Elementary Schools	354
Secondary Schools	295
Non-Public Schools	
Elementary Schools	57
Secondary Schools	29
Colleges and Universities	11
Number of Public Libraries (includes outlets, branches & bookmobiles)	143

Source: *Idaho Facts*, Idaho Department of Commerce & Labor

Transportation

	Value	Ranking	
		US	NW*
Transportation			
Per Capita Federal Highway Fund (2006)	\$185	9	3
Percent Federally Funded Road & Street Miles (2004)	22.5%	35	4
Public Road & Street Mileage (2004)	47,101	35	4
Highway Fatalities Per 100 Million Vehicle Miles (2004)	1.77	15	3
Alcohol Related Fatalities as a % of all Highway Fatalities (2004)	36	34	5
Vehicle Registrations (2004)	1,344,124	36	6
Safety Belt Usage Rate (2005)	76%	36	6

* NW Rank: Idaho's rank relative to the state's six neighbors: Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, Oregon, Washington

Source: *Idaho Fiscal Facts 2006*, Legislative Services Office

Revenue and Expenditures

General Fund Revenue

(Millions)

By Revenue Source	Fiscal Year 1997	Fiscal Year 2007	Annual % Change	Total % Change
Individual Income Tax	\$704.8	\$1,245.3	5.9%	76.7%
Corporate Income Tax	122.4	207.0	5.4%	69.2%
Sales Tax	476.7	1,074.6	8.5%	125.4%
All Other Sources	88.0	135.6	4.4%	54.2%
Revenues*	\$1,391.9	\$2,662.5	6.7%	91.3%

*Includes impact of H1 of 2006 Special Session

Source: *Fiscal Facts 2006*, Idaho Legislative Services Office

General Fund Appropriations

(Millions)

By Functional Area	Fiscal Year 1997	Fiscal Year 2007	Annual % Change	Total % Change
All Education Agencies	\$961.9	\$1,683.7	5.8%	75.0%
Health & Human Services	256.2	533.1	7.6%	108.1%
Public Safety	111.0	223.1	7.2%	100.9%
Natural Resources	25.8	41.5	4.9%	60.8%
Economic Development	6.9	23.4	13.0%	238.6%
General Government	50.9	89.0	5.8%	74.9%
Appropriations	\$1,412.7	\$2,593.7	6.3%	83.6%

*Includes impact of H1 of 2006 Special Session

Source: *Fiscal Facts 2006*, Legislative Services Office

All Funds Revenue

Sources of Revenue

(Millions)

By Fund Source	Fiscal Year 1997	Fiscal Year 2007	Annual %Change	Total %Change
General Fund	\$1,412.7	\$2,593.7	6.3%	83.6%
Dedicated Funds	590.6	991.9	5.3%	68.0%
Federal Funds	755.1	1,770.6	8.9%	134.5%
Total Sources	\$2,758.3	\$5,356.3	6.9%	94.2%

Totals may not add due to rounding.

Source: *Fiscal Facts 2006*, Idaho Legislative Services Office

All Funds Appropriations

(Millions)

By Functional Area	Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year	Annual	Total
	1997	2007	% Change	% Change
All Education Agencies	\$1,166.2	\$2,111.6	6.1%	81.1%
Health & Human Services	772.1	1,719.2	8.3%	122.7%
Public Safety	148.2	302.8	7.4%	104.3%
Natural Resources	118.2	256.2	8.0%	116.7%
Economic Development	393.8	678.4	5.6%	72.3%
General Government	159.9	288.0	6.1%	80.2%
Total Appropriations	\$2,758.3	\$5,356.3	6.9%	94.2%

Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Source: *Fiscal Facts 2006*, Idaho Legislative Services Office

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Fiscal Year: The accounting year used by the state, July 1 of a given year through June 30 of the following year.

Appropriation: 1. Annual fixed budgets that state officers, departments and institutions may not exceed. 2. That portion of the total state budget allocated by the Legislature to a state agency or program for one fiscal year.

Classification of funds:

1. General: The state's primary source of revenue. 46.8% of the General Fund comes from the personal income tax, 40.4% from the sales tax, and 7.8% from the corporate income tax. The remaining 5.1% comes from taxes on alcohol and tobacco and a variety of other taxes and certain licenses and fees not specifically appropriated to any other fund. General tax revenues are used to finance the operations of state government that do not have their own dedicated source of revenue, such as education and prisons.

2. Dedicated/Other: Represents revenue received from a specified source or sources, and disbursed for a specific function or government as required by law. For example, the Department of Fish & Game receives no General Fund money. Instead, the revenue generated by the sale of fishing and hunting licenses and tags is dedicated exclusively to paying for the department's fish and wildlife management and activities.

3. Federal: Identifies moneys from the federal government for specified state administered services.

Annual Percent Change: The rate at which the 1997 appropriation would have to change on an annual basis to reach the 2007 appropriation.

Total Percent Change: The quantity of the 2007 appropriation minus the 1997 appropriation divided by the 1997 appropriation.

Tax Burden

Fiscal Year 2002 vs. 2004

Type of Tax	Based on Income		Based on Population		No. of States* With Tax
	% of U.S.		% of U.S.		
	Average	Rank	Average	Rank	
Individual Income	109/108	22/21	89/89	30/31	44
Corporate Income	72/79	30/27	59/65	34/30	47
Sales	94/109	27/18	77/89	39/31	47
Motor Vehicles	173/158	3/5	141/129	8/13	51
Property	90/88	31/31	77/72	37/37	51
Overall	95/97	38/27	78/79	44/43	51

*includes Washington D.C.

Source: *Fiscal Facts 2006*, Idaho Legislative Services

Resources/Land Use

Land Use*

	Acres (Thousands)	Percent
Urban or Built-up Land	214,700	0.4
Agricultural Land	7,788,500	14.6
Range Land	21,985,700	41.1
Forest Land	20,636,600	38.6
Water	525,600	1.0
Wetland	262,100	0.5
Barren Land	2,058,000	3.8
Tundra	11,400	0.0
Perennial Snow or Ice	0	0.0
TOTAL	53,482,600	100.0

*U.S.G.S. land use/cover classification system. The water category and the rounding and estimating of satellite-based data usually results in slightly higher totals of land use.

Source: *County Profiles of Idaho*, Idaho Department of Commerce

Land Ownership

	Acres
Federal Land	33,412,277
BLM	11,836,481
National Forests	20,458,276
Other	1,117,520
State Land	2,693,260
Endowment Land	2,458,405
Fish & Game	187,769
Parks & Recreation	38,407
University of Idaho Land	8,679
Private	16,735,756
County Land	96,311
Municipal Land	22,972
TOTAL	52,960,576

Percent of Land Ownership

Federal	63.1%
State	5.1%
City and County	0.2%
Private	31.6%

Source: *County Profiles of Idaho*, Idaho Department of Commerce

Economy and Industry

Total Housing Units (2004)

Idaho State - 578,774

Ada	135,717	Gem	6,311
Adams	2,201	Gooding	5,761
Bannock	30,169	Idaho	7,740
Bear Lake	3,519	Jefferson	6,860
Benewah	4,300	Jerome	6,951
Bingham	14,821	Kootenai	52,411
Blaine	13,497	Latah	14,412
Boise	4,699	Lemhi	4,319
Bonner	19,759	Lewis	1,808
Bonneville	33,360	Lincoln	1,720
Boundary	4,255	Madison	9,890
Butte	1,287	Minidoka	7,552
Camas	679	Nez Perce	16,538
Canyon	57,874	Oneida	1,832
Caribou	3,243	Owyhee	4,633
Cassia	8,015	Payette	8,443
Clark	536	Power	2,936
Clearwater	4,258	Shoshone	7,035
Custer	3,022	Teton	3,460
Elmore	11,119	Twin Falls	27,405
Franklin	4,148	Valley	8,777
Fremont	7,303	Washington	4,199

Source: *Idaho Facts*, Idaho Department of Commerce & Labor

Average Single-Family Housing Cost (2004)

Community	Median \$Value	Mean \$Value
Boise	163,000	193,863
Burley/Rupert	71,450	83,325
Coeur d'Alene	134,000	174,014
Idaho Falls	118,700	136,038
Ketchum/Sun Valley	N/A	685,117
Lewiston/Clarkston	111,300	116,118
Nampa/Caldwell	108,000	120,032
Pocatello	98,900	114,774
Sandpoint	165,000	216,766
Twin Falls	110,129	124,425

Source: *Idaho At A Glance*, Idaho Department of Commerce & Labor

Major Idaho Companies (2005)

Advanced Input Systems	Input Devices for Electronics Industry
Agrium Conda Phosphate	Phosphate Mining, Processing
*Albertsons LLC	Food Retailing
Amalgamated Sugar	Beet Sugar, Prepared Foods
AMI Semiconductors	Semiconductor Devices
*Artco	Commercial Printing
ATK	Ammunition Manufacturer
Avista Corp.	Electric Power & Natural Gas Gen/Transmitter
Basic American Foods	Dehydrated Foods
Batelle Energy Alliance	Nuclear Engineering/Enviro Research
Bechtel BWXT Idaho	Environmental Cleaup
BMC West	Building Supplies Seller
*Boise Cascade LLC	Wood Products & Paper Manufacturing
*Buck Knives	Knives
BYU-Idaho	Higher Education
Citi Cards	Credit Card Call Center
*Clear Springs Food, Inc.	Food Processing
*Coldwater Creek	Retail Mail-Order Selling
Convergys	Customer Order/Support
Dell Computer	Technical Support Center
Direct TV Customer Services	Call Center
Flexcel/Kimball International	Metal Office Furniture
*Hagadone Hospitality	Hotel/Restaurant Mgr/Publishing
*Hecla Mining	Mining
Hewlett-Packard	Laser Printers
Hilex Poly	Plastic Bags Manufacturing
*Idaho Power Co/IDACORP	Electric Power Generator/Transmitter
*Intermountain Gas	Energy Transporter/Seller
Jackson Food Stores	Food & Gasoline Retailing
Jayco	Recreational Vehicle Manufacturing
*J.R. Simplot	Food Proc., Fert., Chem., Manufacturing
*Kit Homebuilders West	Manufactured Homes
Lamb-Weston (ConAgra Foods)	Frozen, Dehydrated Foods
*Melaleuca	Cosmetics, Vitamins, Soap
*MPC Computers	Computer Manufacturing & E-Services
*Micron Technology	Memory Devices/Semiconductors
Monsanto	Mining, Processing Elemental Phosphorus
*Nonpareil	Food Processing
Plexus	Electronic Mfg. Services
Potlatch	Paper & Wood Products Mfg.
*Power Engineers	Engineering Services
*Preco Electronics	Electronic Motor Vehicle Safety
Qwest Communications	Communications
*Riley Creek Lumber	Wood Products
Sun Valley	Recreation/Hotel Mgr/Real Estate Developer
T-Mobile USA	Call Center
Trus Joist, A Weyerhaeuser Business	Structural Wood Products
Union Pacific Railroad	Rail Transportation
United Parcel Service	Package Delivery
Wal-Mart	Department Store & Food Retailing
*Washington Group International	Const./Engineering Contractor
*Woodgrain Millworks	Millwork, Wood Moulding
*Corporate Headquarters	

Source: *Idaho Facts*, Idaho Department of Commerce & Labor

Idaho Exports (2005)

(US Dollars Millions)	Export Totals	% of Total
	\$3,250.3	
High-Tech	2,346.0	72.0
Food & Agriculture	333.3	10.2
Wood & Building Materials	173.9	5.3
Other	142.7	4.4
Transportation Equipment	96.6	3.0
Fertilizers	65.2	2.0
Raw Materials	59.9	1.8
Hides & Leather Goods	21.1	0.6
Fabricated Metal Products	21.0	0.6

Source: *Idaho Facts*, Idaho Department of Commerce & Labor

Cost of Living

Based on average housing costs, utilities, health care, transportation, groceries, and other services, Idaho's cost of living is the second lowest of the eleven western states. Boise's cost of living is 96 percent of the national average, Idaho Falls' is 92 percent, Pocatello is 92 percent, and Twin Falls' is 93 percent. The list below provides a comparison of the relative cost of living in the western united states averaged over 4 consecutive quarters based on the participating cities within those states.

Index	
Utah	92.6
Idaho	94.7
Montana	99.1
National	100.0
New Mexico	101.4
Wyoming	101.5
Colorado	102.2
Arizona	102.6
Washington	103.8
Nevada	107.9
Oregon	108.0
California	144.9

Source: *Idaho At A Glance*, Idaho Department of Commerce & Labor
ACCRA Cost of Living Index 1st Quarter 2004 through 4th quarter 2004

Total Sales by County (Fiscal Year 2006)

Ada	\$10,871,242,178	Gooding	168,852,337
Adams	40,288,821	Idaho	219,562,976
Bannock	1,029,403,987	Jefferson	338,839,292
Bear Lake	71,366,069	Jerome	525,232,446
Benewah	170,674,243	Kootenai	2,755,289,724
Bingham	523,488,031	Latah	420,756,154
Blaine	780,922,162	Lemhi	175,331,335
Boise	40,624,330	Lewis	107,128,734
Bonner	787,750,923	Lincoln	36,286,510
Bonneville	2,592,544,351	Madison	365,989,618
Boundary	207,191,267	Minidoka	443,545,333
Butte	20,477,822	Nez Perce	1,244,054,536
Camas	9,413,136	Oneida	45,869,467
Canyon	2,718,916,475	Owyhee	100,402,789
Caribou	262,359,516	Payette	376,144,081
Cassia	596,293,306	Power	89,172,441
Clark	7,236,801	Shoshone	553,430,483
Clearwater	110,840,073	Teton	151,123,198
Custer	56,080,976	Twin Falls	1,326,796,195
Elmore	215,484,202	Valley	159,424,233
Franklin	193,844,503	Washington	214,790,336
Fremont	110,932,750	Multiple Counties	13,483,602,600
Gem	169,754,870	Out of State	9,535,291,042

Source: *Idaho Facts*, Idaho Department of Commerce & Labor

TOTAL SALES

Fiscal Year	
1985	14,310,387,656
1986	13,846,859,262
1987	13,798,706,142
1988	15,142,382,806
1989	16,962,202,986
1990	19,058,174,864
1991	20,240,448,933
1992	22,277,249,041
1993	24,866,264,060
1994	26,911,404,690
1995	29,615,897,568
1996	32,338,305,409
1997	34,900,773,947
1998	36,572,933,705
1999	38,350,198,200
2000	43,017,074,181
2001	43,069,166,179
2002	43,143,682,925
2003	42,214,205,701
2004	45,105,351,863
2005	50,205,353,850
2006	54,424,246,646

Source: *Idaho Facts*, Idaho Department of Commerce & Labor

Economic Highlights

Idaho: A Healthy and Diversified Economy

- Idaho's personal income increased nearly 16 percent between 2003 and 2005, ranking third nationally. (U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, 4/2006)
- Idaho exports increased 55 percent in value between 2003 and 2005, ranking seventh nationally in percentage growth. Idaho's top exports include high-tech, food and agriculture and wood and building materials. (U.S. Census Bureau)
- Idaho exports set a record for the first half of 2006 of nearly \$1.8 billion. China, including Hong Kong, and Canada are Idaho's largest markets for international trade. (U.S. Census Bureau)
- Idaho's gross state product grew at over 18 percent when adjusted for inflation between 2003 and 2005 to rank first in the nation. Inflation-adjusted growth ranked first in 2004 and fourth in 2005. (U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, 6/2006)
- Idaho's growth rate in nonfarm payroll jobs ranked fourth nationally between 2002 and 2005 and from 2004 to 2005. (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)
- Idaho's nonfarm payroll jobs increased by a greater percentage than any other state between second quarter 2005 and second quarter 2006. The rate was just over 5.1 percent. (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 7/2006)
- Idaho is number one in the nation in the production of potatoes, trout and winter peas. The state ranks in the top 10 in 22 other products. (U.S. Department of Agriculture)
- Idaho ranks first nationally in manufacturing investment. (Corporation for Enterprise Development, 2006 Development Report Card for the States)
- Idaho ranked first nationally in the percentage growth of in new companies. (Corporation for Enterprise Development, 2006)
- Idaho ranked seventh nationally with a 25 percent increase in the value added by manufacturing in the latest Annual Survey of Manufactures. (U.S. Census Bureau)

Idaho: A Great Place to Do Business

- Idaho has the 13th lowest overall cost of doing business in U.S., third lowest in West. (Moody's/Economy.com, 5/2006)
- Forbes placed Idaho sixth best on its list of Best States for Business. (8/18/2006 press release)
- Idaho's overall tax burden per capita is the second lowest in the West. (U.S. Census Bureau)
- Idaho has the lowest state and local government per capita debt in the nation. (U.S. Census Bureau)
- Between 1997 and 2004, Idaho ranked fourth in growth of women-owned businesses, first for employment growth in those businesses and third in sales by women-owned businesses. (Center for Women's Business Research)
- According to the Pacific Research Institute, Idaho ranked fourth nationally for business economic freedom in 2004.
- The Kauffmann Index ranks Idaho fifth highest in the nation for residents who start their own business.
- Idaho is third in the nation in population growth from 2004 to 2005 and sixth since 2000. (U.S. Census Bureau)
- Idaho ranks third lowest nationally in energy costs. (Corporation for Enterprise Development, 2006)

Idaho's Emerging Science & Technology Economy:

- Idaho is number one in the nation for patents issued per capita. Idaho companies such as Micron, Hewlett-Packard and the Idaho National Laboratory account for a large percentage of the patents issued (U.S. Patent Trademark Office, 2004)
- Idaho ranks sixth nationally in semiconductor employment with 11,000 jobs. (AeA Cyberstates 2006, 4/2006)
- Idaho ranks eighth in the nation in computer and peripheral equipment manufacturing jobs. (AeA, 4/2006)
- Idaho is 17th nationally in per capita research and development spending. (AeA, 4/2006)
- Idaho ranks third in percentage of exports coming from high-tech firms at 69 percent in 2005. (AeA 4/2006)
- Micron Technology and AMI Semiconductors are two of Idaho's largest semiconductor manufacturers. Micron is one of the largest manufacturers of DRAM semiconductor chips in the world.
- Idaho ranks seventh in the nation in the concentration of high-tech workers. (AeA, 4/2006)
- Idaho ranks second to California in the differential between high-tech wages and private-sector wages at twice the average. (AeA, 4/2006)
- Idaho ranked sixth nationally in the rate of increase in high-tech employment growth. (AeA, 4/2006)
- Idaho ranked seventh nationally in the percentage increase in venture capital investments. (AeA, 4/2006)
- Idaho is number three on Business Facilities magazine's list of Top 10 High-Tech Rapid Growth States, 2000-2010. (Business Facilities, 8/2003)
- Idaho ranked sixth nationally in percentage of households with computers. (Corporation for Enterprise Development, 2006)

Idaho's Quality of Life:

- Idaho has the lowest serious crime rate of the 13 western states. (Federal Bureau of Investigation - 2005)
- Idaho ranks sixth nationally in overall quality of life. (Corporation for Enterprise Development, 2006)
- Modern Maturity magazine lists Coeur d'Alene fifth and Boise 10th in its list of the most "Green and Clean" cities in America (Modern Maturity, 6/2000)
- Idaho's low prevalence of smoking, low incidence of infectious disease and low violent crime rate rank it the nation's 16th healthiest state. (America's Health: State Health Rankings, 2005)
- BabyFit.com rates Boise the sixth healthiest city in the country for pregnancy. (BabyFit.com)
- The Boise-Nampa Metropolitan Area was named the most secure place to live in 2006 among metros over 500,000 population. All of Idaho's other metro areas – Coeur d'Alene, Idaho Falls, Lewiston and Pocatello – ranked in the top 20 of areas under 150,000. (Farmers Insurance Group, 12/2006)

What They're Saying About Idaho:

- ipIQ, Intellectual Property Intelligence Quotient, an independent technology analysis firm, recently ranked Micron Technology number one in the semiconductor industry in its 2006 Patent Scorecard. (ipIQ, 7/2006)
- Boise: Eighth in Money's Best Places to Live. (Money, 8/2006)
- Boise: Eighth on the Wall Street Journal's "Top 20 Most Inventive Towns." (Wall Street Journal, 7/2006)
- Why I Went to Boise: Getting Out of Town on a Saturday Night. (National Geographic Traveler, 2006)
- Inc. magazine's 2006 list of top 10 Boomtowns "Best Cities for Doing Business" ranked Coeur d'Alene fifth and Idaho Falls 10th. Boise ranked second in 2005. (Inc., May, 2006)
- Boise Metro: Best for business and careers in 2005 and fourth best in 2006. Boise has claimed a spot in the top 10 for seven of the last eight years. (Forbes Magazine)
- Idaho Falls: #10 on USA Today's Top 10 "Emerging Cities List." (USA Today, 2004)
- Coeur d'Alene: #5 on USA Today's Top 10 "Emerging Cities List." (USA Today, 2004)
- Boise Metro: #1 in Innovation and #30 overall in the Creativity Index. (CreativeClass.org, 2003)
- "Tamarack Ski Resort: One of America's Hottest Destinations in 2004" – (Washington Post, 2004)
- Boise is the fourth best walking city in the U.S. (Prevention Magazine)
- "Teton Ridge Ranch: Top Ten Great Escape Travel List." (Chicago Tribune, 2004)
- Sun Valley: Skiing North America's Top Ten Travel List." (Chicago Tribune, 2004)
- Sun Valley, Idaho: The most romantic ski / snowboard resort in the West (skisnowboard.com, 2004)
- 10 Great places to see Lewis and Clark sites: Lemhi Pass and Lolo Pass and Lochsa River (USA Today, 2004)

Source: Idaho Department of Commerce & Labor



Downtown Boise at Sunset

Photo Courtesy: Boise Convention & Visitors Bureau