



“Idaho’s economy is growing. Our education system must grow with it. We owe it to those who want to make a living and a life in Idaho.”

— Gov. C.L. “Butch” Otter, Aug. 21, 2015, in an editorial about recent education system improvements and goals for the future

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Gov. C.L. Otter (R)

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Idaho

Pop. (2014): 1,647,0112
Median household income: \$53,438
Credit Rating: AA+/Stable

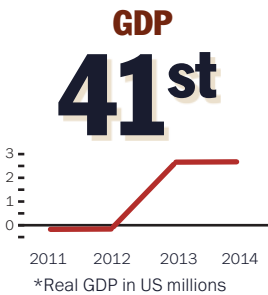
Pop. growth 2013–2018: 5.50%
Median age: 35.9
Right-to-work state: Yes

Legislative Update

- Minor changes recommended by the state department of commerce provide clarity to the Tax Reimbursement Incentive, passed during the 2014 legislative session, which provides a tax credit of up to 30 percent for up to 15 years on new income tax, sales tax and payroll taxes paid as a result of a new qualifying project. Amendments revise the definition of new jobs, application requirements, the agreement with the applicant and applicant reporting requirements.
- A new law appropriates \$36.1 million to the Department of Commerce for fiscal year 2016, limits the number of full-time equivalent positions to 46, and transfers \$1.75 million from the General Fund to the Idaho Opportunity Fund. Another new law appropriates nearly \$67 million in FY 2016 to the Division of Professional-Technical Education, a 6.3-percent increase.

Rankings that Matter

Business Tax Climate	19
Legal Climate	6
Higher Ed. R&D Expenditure	46 (142,772)
ACT Career Readiness Certificates	48 (96)
Lowest Electric Power Cost	4 (8.38)
Fiscal Solvency	15
College Attainment	36 (36.9%)



Selected Corporate Facility Projects 2015

Company	City	County	Type	New/ Expansion	Product	Investment (\$ millions)	Employment
Micron Technology, Inc.	Boise	Ada	RD	N	Memory Solutions	200	
Fabri-Kal	Burley	Cassia	MF	N	Plastic Products	50	50
Heartland Recreational Vehicles	Nampa	Canyon	MF	N	Recreational Vehicles	12	120
Involta	Boise	Ada	DT	N	Data Center	10	
Fiberpipe Data Centers	Boise	Ada	DT	N	Data Center		30
J.R. Simplot Co.	Boise	Ada	OF	E	Vegetable Processing		
Payette Brewing Company	Boise	Ada	OF	E	Breweries		

DT = Data Center MF = Manufacturing OF = Office HQ = Headquarters RD = Research & Development DW = Distribution/Warehouse

Did You Know?

The Boise Metro ranks at 94.7 percent of the national average in ACCRA's Cost of Living Index. Business costs in the Boise Valley are a third lower than in California and Washington.

The Geothermal Energy Association's 2015 report notes that Idaho has 88 MW of planned capacity additions in the works, fourth in the nation.

The US Dept. of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management (BLM) manages nearly 12 million acres of public lands in Idaho (almost one-fourth of the state's total land area), including 16 Wild and Scenic Rivers covering 318 miles.





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IBM, Global Business Services

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