Lemhi County has seen steady growth over the last 4 years with a 1.98% increase in 2021. This is a positive sign for the Lemhi County communities.
AGE DISTRIBUTION

Lemhi County has experience growth in all age ranges in 2021. The median age has only increased .5% since 2018 which has given Lemhi County a strong core of working age residents.

44.6% of Lemhi County residents are under the age of 45 meaning long term labor output of the region could start shrinking throughout the next two decades.

The working age population, defined as those 18-64, accounted for 52% of Lemhi’s 2021 population.

The population that is over 65 years of age is 6.7% more than it was in 2018.

NET MIGRATION FLOW

Lemhi County has experienced a strong positive net migration pattern over the last 3 years, gaining more residents a year from in-migration rather than out-migration. This positive trend in recent years continues to show improvement in the area for attracting and retaining residents.

26.7% are between 18 and 44

SOURCE: United States Census Bureau American Community Survey
EDUCATION

In 2021, 31% of residents over 25 had a college degree in Lemhi County. This is a 1% increase compared to 2017.

Lemhi County saw 40 less people with bachelor’s degrees and 54 less with graduate degrees in 2021.

Those with graduate degrees have increased by 13% since 2017, going from 393 residents to 446 residents.

SOURCE: Cohort Grad Rate 4-year public Idaho State Department of Education

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATES

The high school graduation rate was calculated with the weighted averages of the graduation rates for all districts within Lemhi County.

The significance of these data points is it reflects the ability to train workers in new skills or jobs. Highly educated populations are easily trained to be productive parts of the modern workforce.

SOURCE: Cohort Grad Rate 4-year public Idaho State Department of Education
**KEY INDUSTRIES**

Health Care/Education, Retail Trade, Agriculture, and Manufacturing top the charts as some of the key industries for Lemhi County. All did see a slight decline in 2021 outside of manufacturing.

Key Industries allow us to see what keeps the region running and what is important to us. It helps us to understand more deeply the dynamics of the area and even what it looks like. We can know if we are in a tourist region, a production region, or a business region. Our top employers give us an even closer look at where those industry breakdowns are going on a company level and see the industries put into tangible products.

**JOB GROWTH**

Lemhi County saw a decline of growth during the pandemic in 2020 but has since rebounded strongly averaging 4.25% growth annually in the following years since the pandemic. This is slightly above the national average and the state.

Expanding populations and Entrepreneurs in the area allow for large job growth and opportunities for more businesses. Increasing job growth allows there to be more openings for new residents and those entering the workforce from high school and college.

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**Top Employers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employer</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salmon School District</td>
<td>Local Government</td>
<td>100 - 249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steele Memorial Medical Center</td>
<td>Local Government</td>
<td>100 - 249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S Forest Service</td>
<td>Federal Government</td>
<td>100 - 249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dahle Construction</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>50 - 99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Idaho Department of Fish and Game</td>
<td>State Government</td>
<td>50 - 99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lemhi County</td>
<td>Local Government</td>
<td>50 - 99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q B Corporation</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>50 - 99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saveway Market</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>50 - 99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sawtooth Healthcare</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>50 - 99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ray's Heating and Plumbing Electric</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>10 - 49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LOCATION QUOTIENT

Location quotient represents the share of a sector’s demand for employees in each sector, compared to a national average. For example, Lemhi County’s Natural Resources and Mining sector has a location quotient of 1.44 meaning it employs 44% more than the national average. In contrast, the Financial Activities sector has a location quotient of 0.36 meaning it employs a third of the national average within this sector.


EMPLOYMENT BY SECTOR

Each sector is represented by its share of total employment for each given year. Health Care/Education, Arts/Recreation, and Retail Trade did see notable declines in 2021 from the previous year.

Some notable increases were in Manufacturing, Construction, and Transportation and Warehousing saw notable increases in their sector from 2021.

The Health Care/Education sector is still the largest employing 18.7% of Lemhi County’s population.


1. Natural Resources and Mining
2. Construction
3. Manufacturing
4. Trade, Transportation, and Utilities
5. Information
6. Financial Activities
7. Professional & Business Services
8. Education & Health Services
9. Leisure & Hospitality
10. Other Services
In 2019, the per capita income of Lemhi County was $43,898. It rose by almost $7,000 dollars since then and was $50,927 in 2021. Lemhi County has seen an increase due to a shortening labor market making companies pay their employees more to compete with others in the open market.

**INCOME PER CAPITA**

**MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME**

Lemhi County's median household income has increased over the last 5 years, and in 2021, experienced a large increase compared to other years.

Lemhi County saw a 18.77% increase in household income from 2020 to 2021 to a new median of $46,105.

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

Unemployment spiked in the nation in early 2020. Lemhi County saw a peak of 9.8% in the 2nd quarter of 2020.

After the spike Lemhi County experienced a return to pre-pandemic levels and now unemployment is at 3.1% in the county.

**SOURCE:** Federal Reserve Economic Data

**SOURCE:** United States Census Bureau
American Community Survey

**SOURCE:** US Bureau of Labor Statistics
POVERTY

Lemhi County had 1,534 people below the poverty level. This is 12% higher than the previous year showing a need of improvement in helping the community.

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau

LIVING WAGE

The cost of living was decreasing in Lemhi County. In 2021, the cost of living was 89.4 when the average American spends $100 those in Lemhi County only spent $89.40. Lemhi County’s health care, transportation, and utilities are inexpensive and help keep living costs down.

SOURCE: Consumer Price Index, West Region November 2021 (bls.gov)

POVERTY

Lemhi County had 1,534 people below the poverty level. This is 12% higher than the previous year showing a need of improvement in helping the community.

SOURCE: Consumer Price Index, West Region November 2021 (bls.gov)
**MEDIAN HOME PRICE**

Median home value has steadily increased the last 5 years. In 2021, Lemhi County experienced a 13% increase from the year before in home values showing that homes have been appreciating well for long-time homeowners in the county.

**SOURCE:** American Community Survey US Census

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**GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT**

Lemhi County experienced a decline in growth during the pandemic but has shown signs of rebounding in 2021. This shows the opportunities of the Lemhi County’s market output for the future.

In 2021, Lemhi County ranked 23rd out of the 44 counties in the state in GDP growth.

**SOURCE:** U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)