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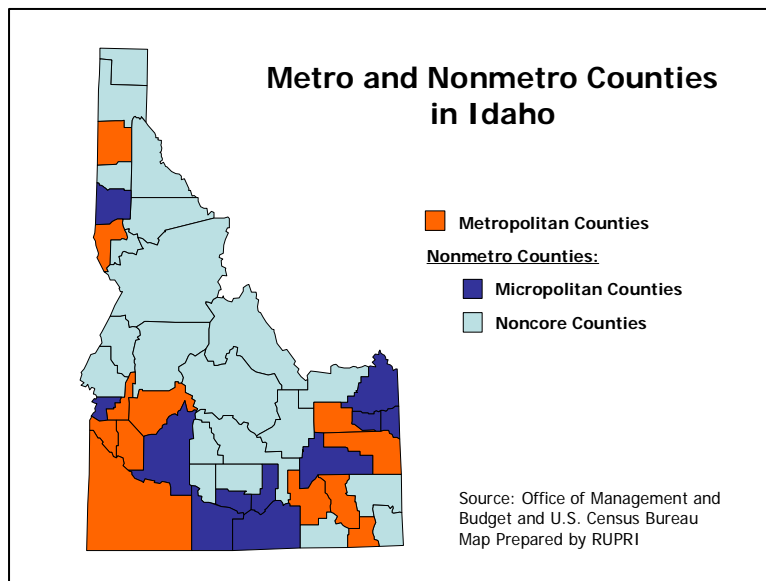
Demographic and Economic Profile

Idaho

Updated June 2006

Metro and Nonmetro Counties in Idaho

Based on the most recent listing of core based statistical areas by the Office of Management and Budget (December 2005), 12 counties in Idaho are part of metropolitan areas, and 11 counties are part of micropolitan areas. The micropolitan category defines counties that include an urban area with a population of 10,000 to 49,999 plus surrounding counties that are linked through commuting ties. These areas often represent important economic and trade centers in rural areas. The remaining 21 counties in Idaho are considered noncore counties. Using these classifications and the population estimates for 2005, 64.5 percent of Idaho residents live in metropolitan areas, 21.6 percent live in micropolitan areas, and 13.9 percent live in noncore areas.

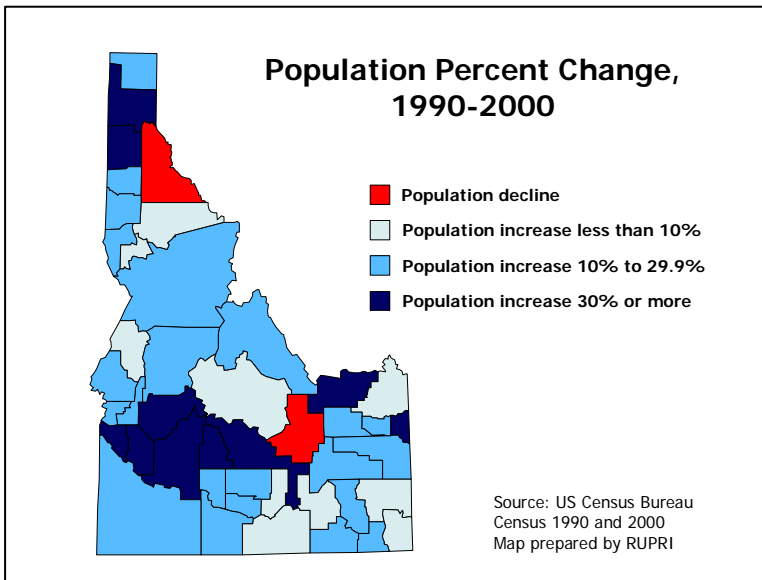


Population

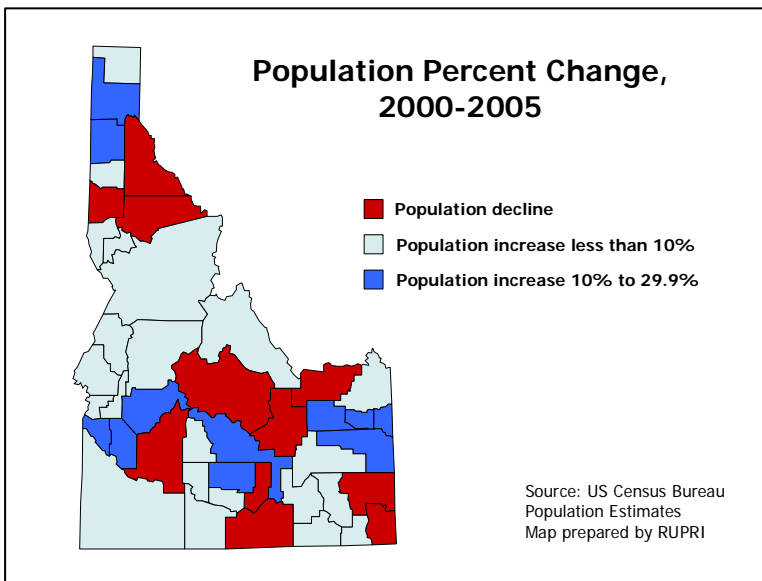
Idaho's population in 2005 was 1,429,096, up 10.4 percent from the 2000 Census. During the 1990s the population in Idaho increased by 28.5 percent. Nationally, population increased 13.1 percent during the 1990s, and 5.3 percent from April 2000 to July 2005. The population growth in metropolitan areas in Idaho outpaced the nonmetropolitan areas during both time periods.

Percent Change in Population		
Area:	1990-2000	2000-2005
U.S.	13.1%	5.3%
Idaho	28.5%	10.4%
Metropolitan	35.8%	14.2%
Nonmetropolitan	18.0%	4.2%
Micropolitan	17.6%	4.6%
Noncore	18.7%	3.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

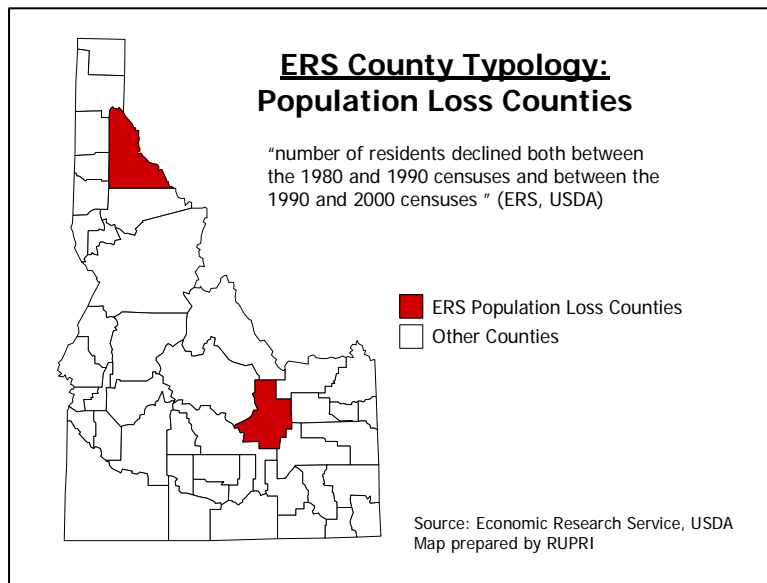


Two counties in Idaho lost population during the 1990s, both of them nonmetro. The fastest growth was in Boise County in the Boise City-Nampa Metropolitan Area, with a population increase of 90.1 percent during the 1990s.



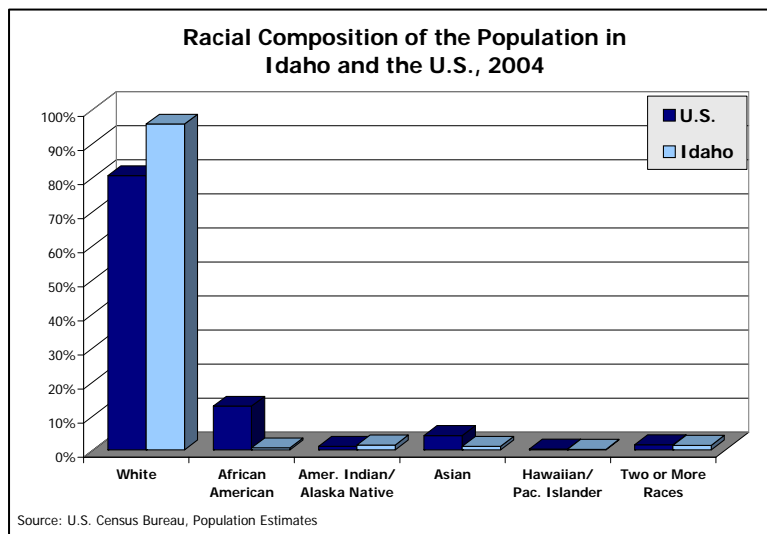
From 2000 to 2005, 11 counties in Idaho lost population, all of them nonmetro. The fastest growth during this time period was in Canyon County, part of the Boise City-Nampa Metropolitan Area (25.2% increase), and in Teton County, part of the Jackson WY-ID Micropolitan Area (24.5% increase).

The Economic Research Service, USDA, classifies counties as population loss counties if the population declined from 1980 to 1990 and from 1990 to 2000. In Idaho, two counties, both nonmetro, are classified as population loss counties.



Race / Ethnicity

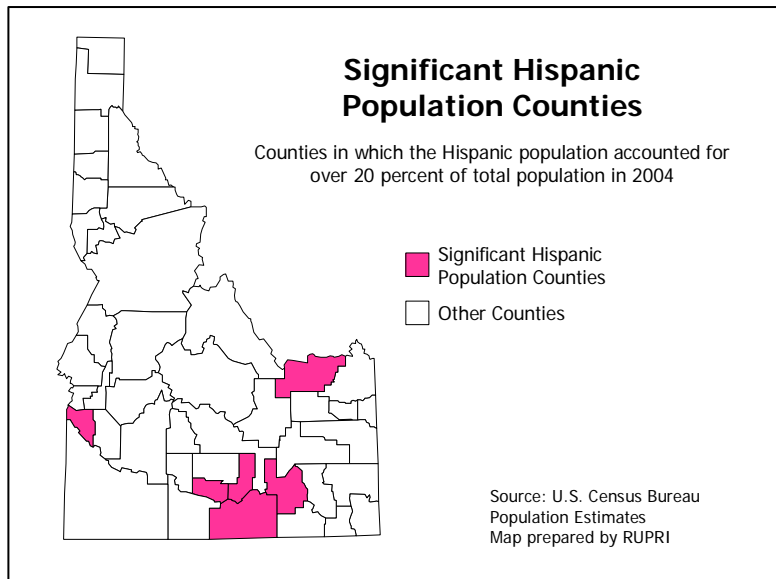
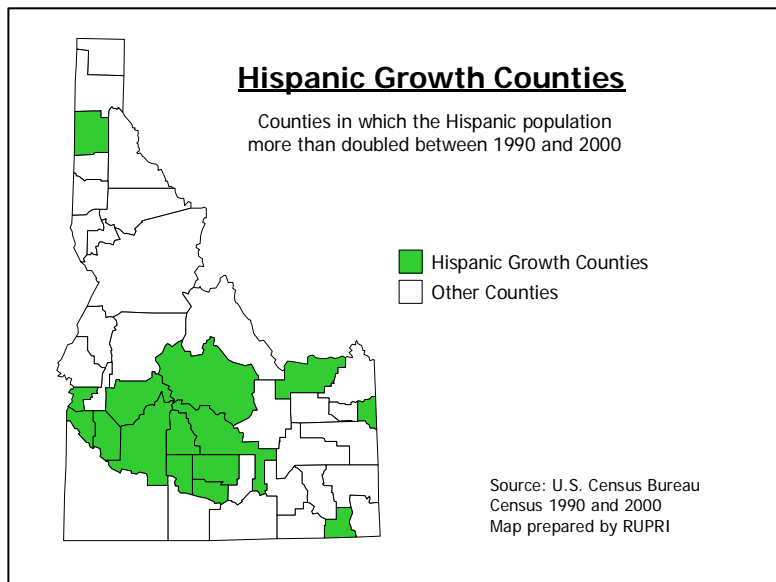
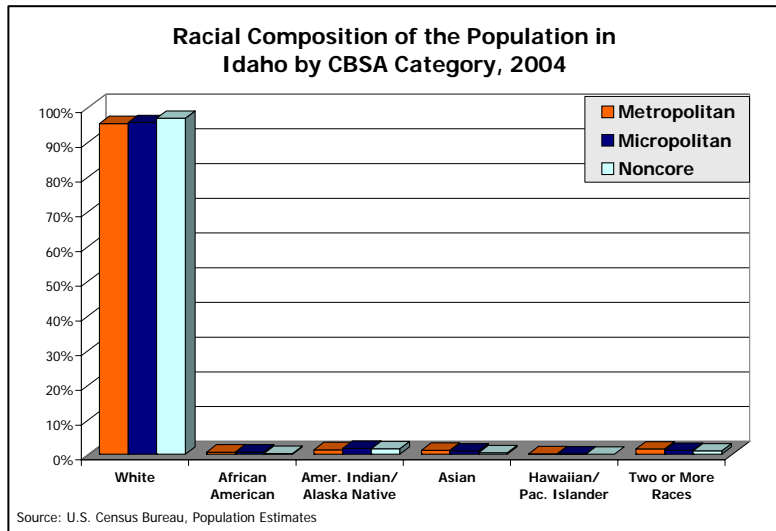
The population in Idaho is 95.5 percent white and 0.6 percent African American. Nationally, the population is 80.4 percent white and 12.8 percent African American (2004 Census Bureau estimates).



Within Idaho, the metropolitan population is 95.3 percent white and 0.6 percent African American. The micropolitan population is 95.5 percent white and 0.6 percent African American, and the noncore population is 96.8 percent white and 0.2 percent African American.

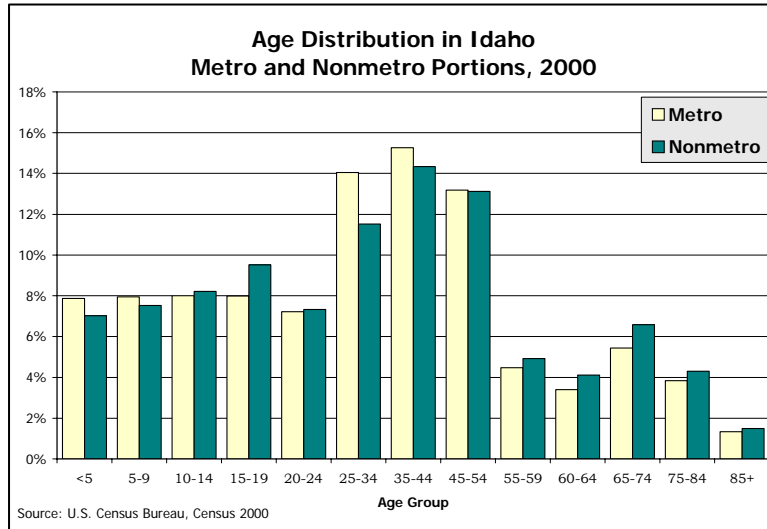
People of Hispanic origin make up 8.9 percent of Idaho's population, compared to 14.1 percent of the total U.S. population. Within Idaho, Hispanics make up 8.2 percent of the metropolitan population, 12.6 percent of the micropolitan population, and 6.1 percent of the noncore population. During the past decade and a half, many areas have experienced significant increases in the Hispanic population. The map to the right shows the counties in which the Hispanic population more than doubled during the 1990s.

In six Idaho counties, Hispanics make up over 20 percent of the population (2004 Census Bureau estimates), and in Clark County, Hispanics account for 37.5 percent of total population.

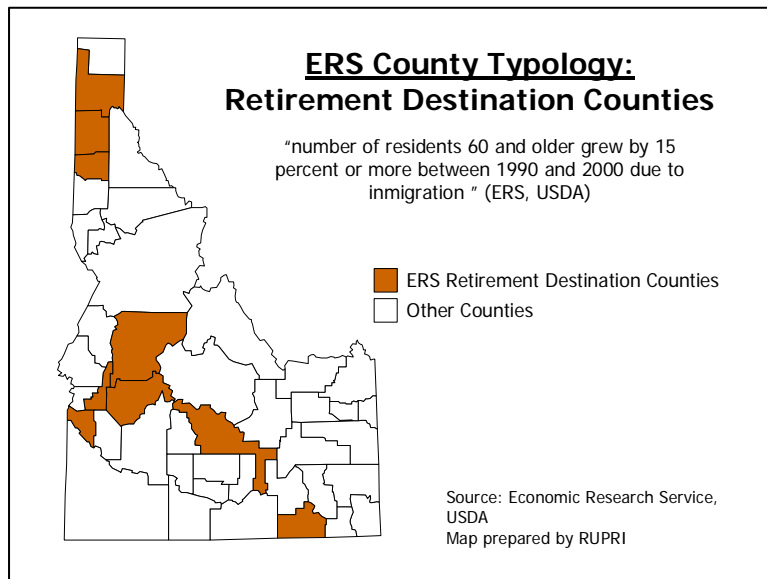


Age

The age distribution of the metro and nonmetro population in Idaho is shown in the chart below. The percent of the population in the 25 to 44 age groups is greater in the metro areas, while the percent of the population age 55 and over is greater in the nonmetro areas.

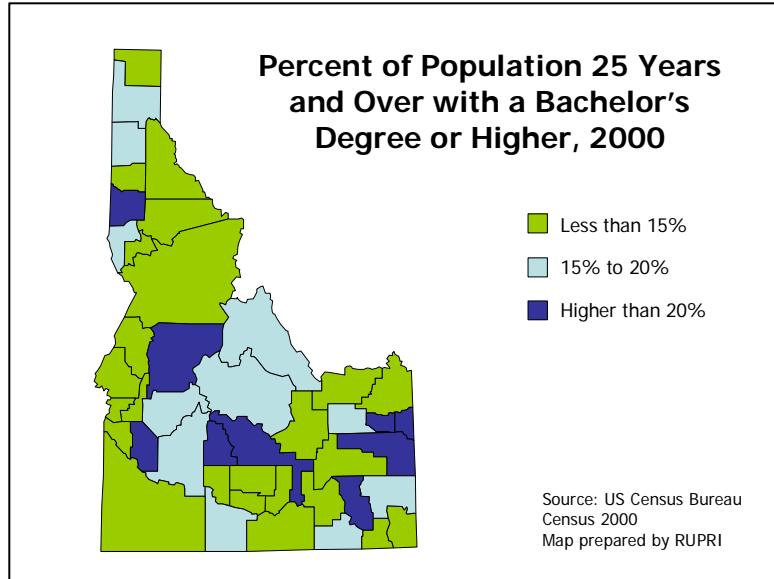


The Economic Research Service classifies counties as retirement destination counties based on population change due to immigration. In Idaho, nine counties are classified as retirement destination counties (4 metro and 5 nonmetro counties).

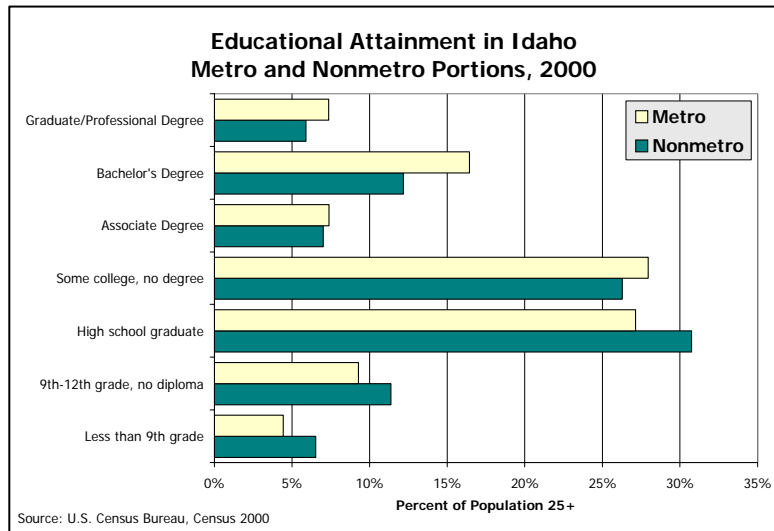


Educational Attainment

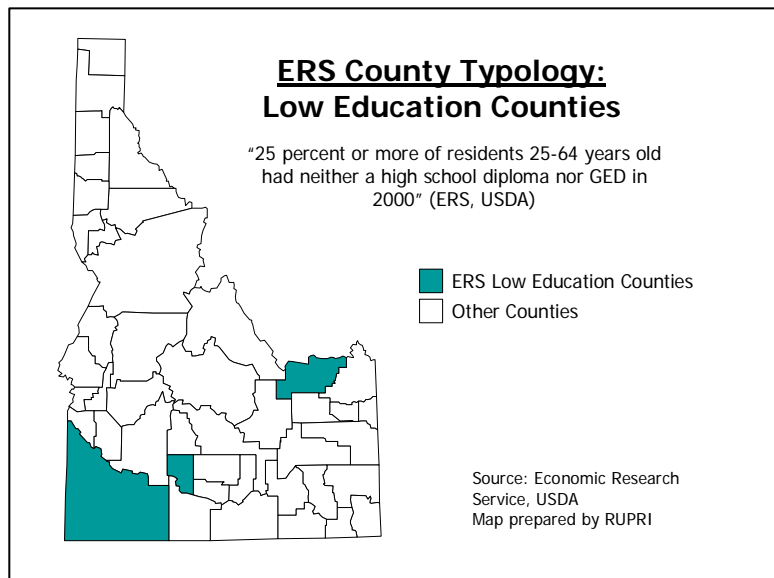
The percent of the population age 25 and over that has earned a Bachelor's Degree or higher is 24.4 percent in the U.S. and 21.7 percent in Idaho. In metro areas of Idaho, this percentage is 23.8 percent, compared to 18.1 percent in nonmetro areas.



The chart to the right compares the educational attainment of Idaho's metro and nonmetro populations. The percent of the population with high educational attainment (B.S. degree or higher) is greater in the metro areas, while the percent of the population with low educational attainment (high school degree or lower) is greater in the nonmetro areas.

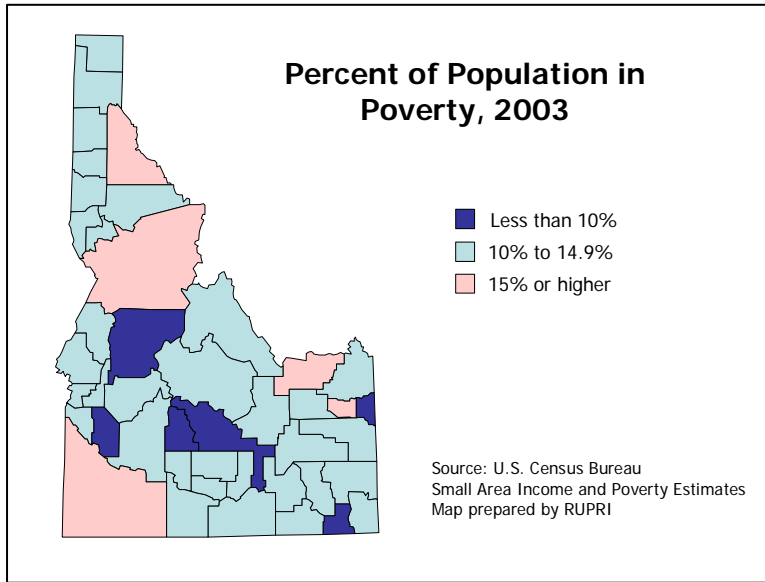


The Economic Research Service classifies counties as low education counties if "25 percent or more of residents 25-64 years old had neither a high school diploma nor GED in 2000." In Idaho, three counties are classified as low education counties (1 metro and 2 nonmetro counties).



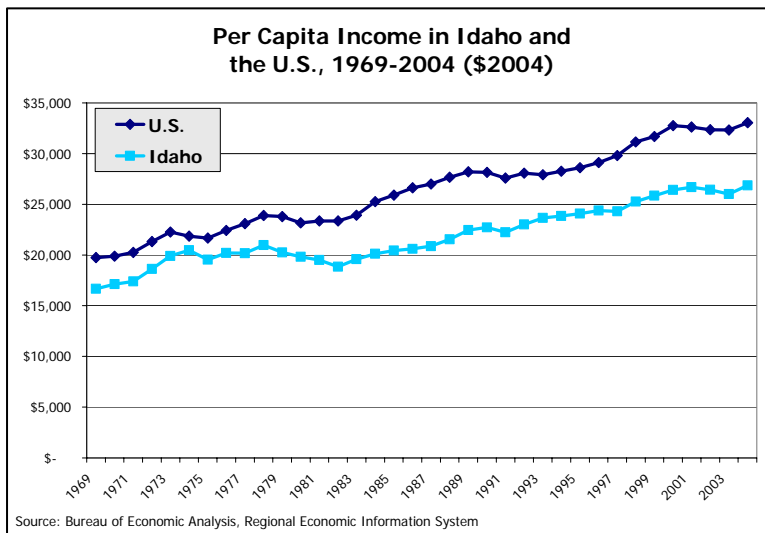
Poverty

The poverty rate in Idaho in 2003 was 11.8 percent, compared to 12.5 percent for the U.S. (Census Bureau estimates). The poverty rate in Idaho counties ranged from 6.3 percent in Blaine County to 16.6 percent in Shoshone County.

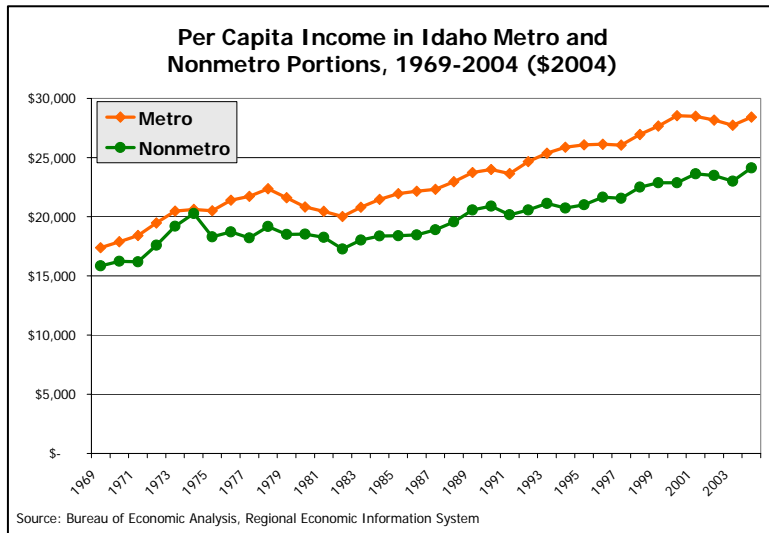


Per Capita Income

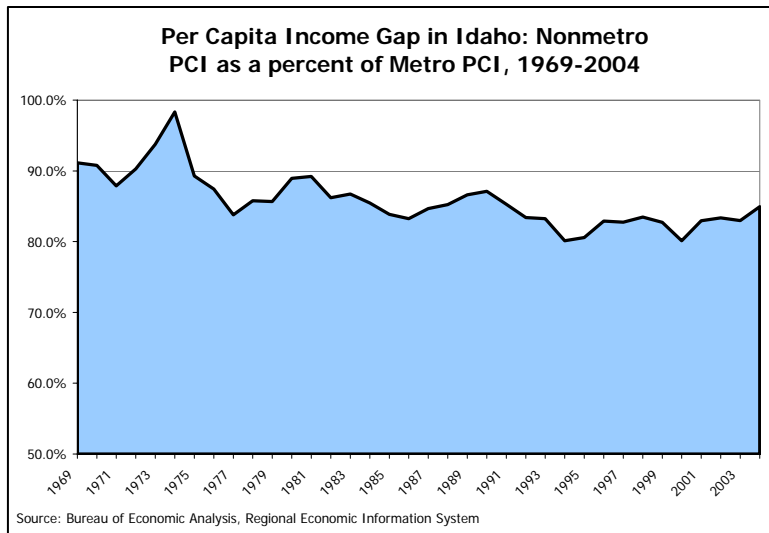
Per capita income in Idaho has lagged behind the nation over the past several decades. In 2004, per capita income in Idaho was \$26,877, compared to \$33,050 for the U.S.



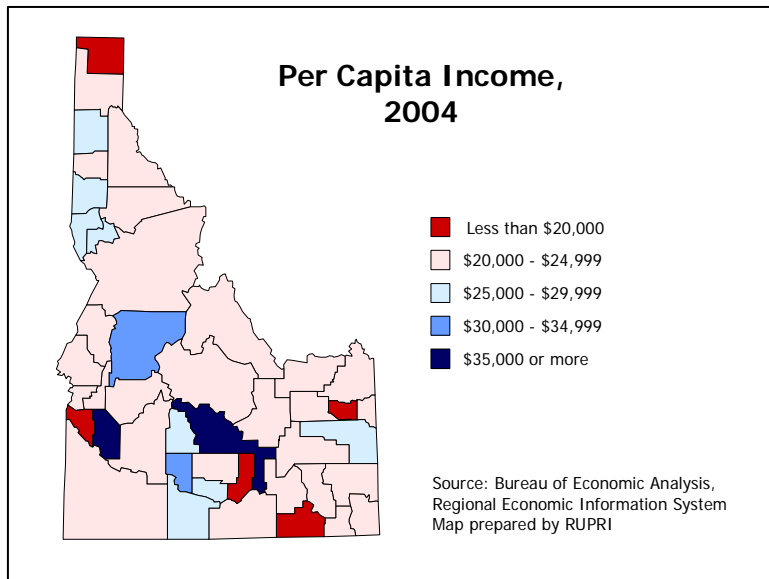
Nonmetro per capita income in Idaho has lagged behind metro over the past several decades. In 2004, metro per capita income was \$28,417, compared to \$24,135 in nonmetro areas.



The per capita income gap is measured with nonmetro per capita income as a percent of metro per capita income. In Idaho, the gap was at its smallest in 1974 and at its largest in 1994. In 2004, nonmetro per capita income was 84.9 percent of metro per capita income.

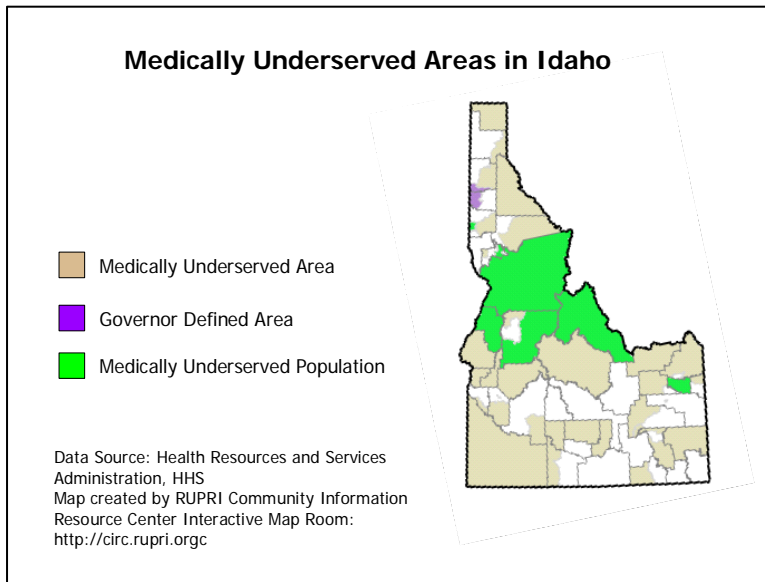


Within Idaho, 2004 per capita income ranged from \$15,945 in Madison County to \$45,635 in Blaine County. Five counties had per capita income less than \$20,000 in 2004.

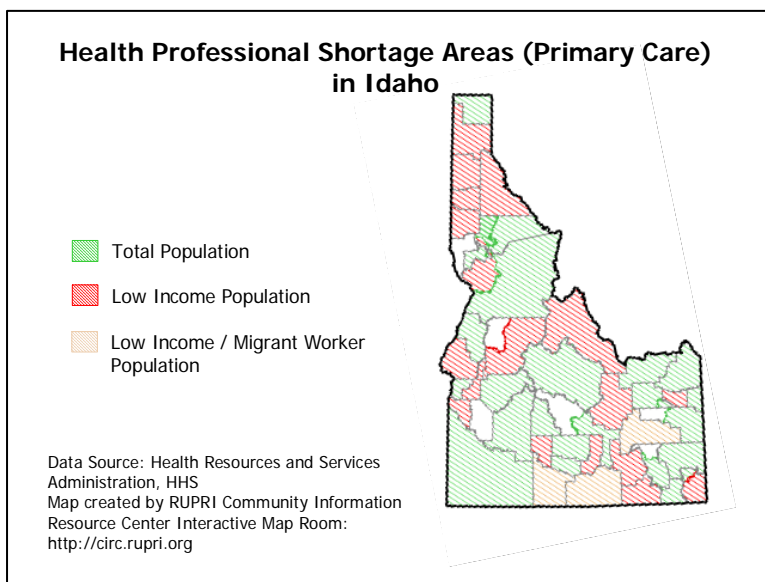


Health Services

The designation of areas or populations as medically underserved is based on an index of four variables - the ratio of primary care physicians per 1,000 population, the infant mortality rate, the percent of the population with incomes below the poverty level, and the percent of the population age 65 and over (Health Resources and Services Administration, HHS). Within Idaho, several areas of the state are considered medically underserved, shown in the map below.

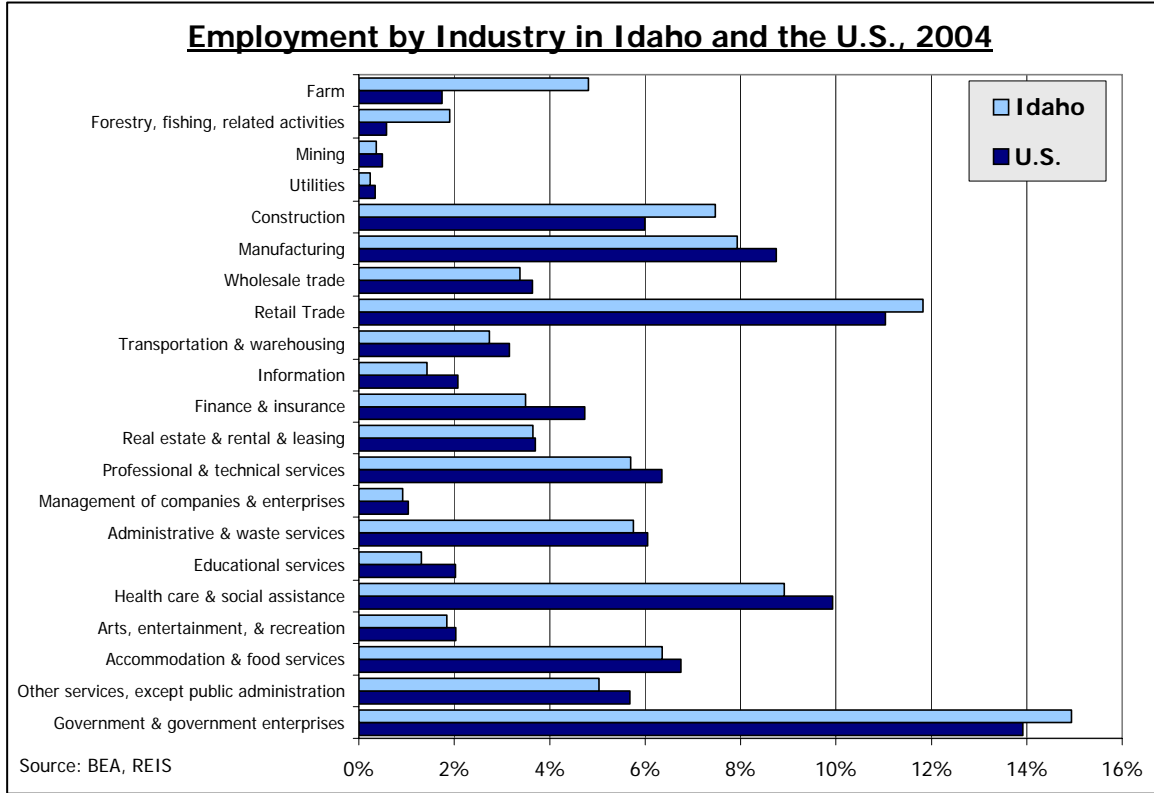


Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) are those areas that “may have shortages of primary medical care, dental or mental health providers and may be urban or rural areas, population groups, or medical or other public facilities” (Health Resources and Services Administration, HHS). Within Idaho, several areas in the state are designated as primary care HPSAs for the total or low income populations.

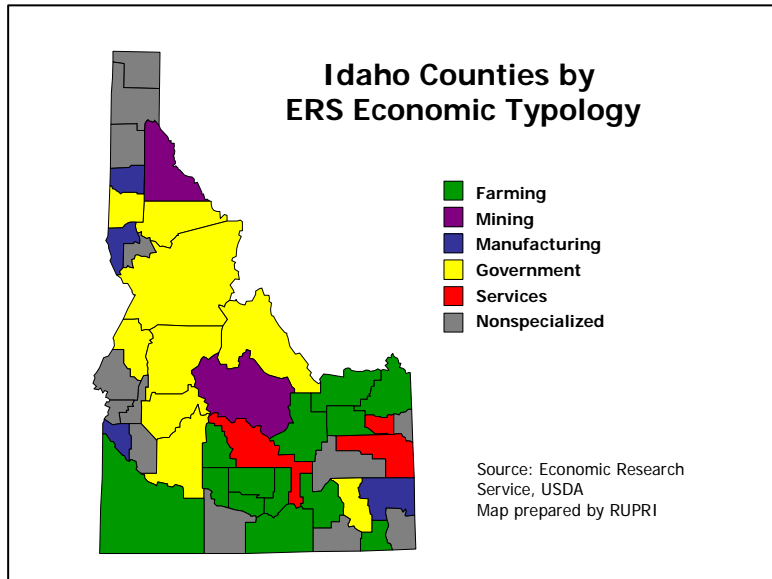


Employment Structure

In 2004, government and government enterprises accounted for the largest shares of employment in Idaho (14.9%) and the U.S. (13.9%). Retail trade was the second largest employment sector both in Idaho (11.8%) and the U.S. (11.0%).

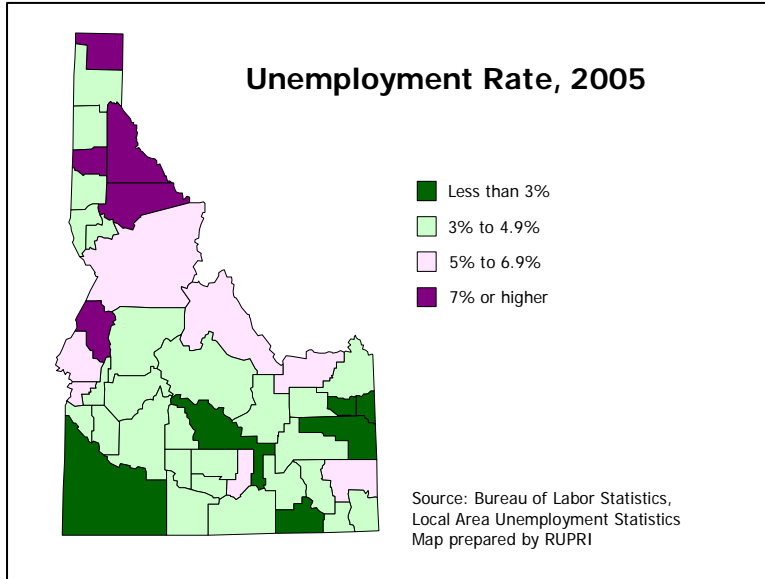


The ERS Economic Typology classifies counties into one of five industry categories of specialization or as nonspecialized. The map to the right shows the classification of Idaho counties by this typology, illustrating the diversity across the state.

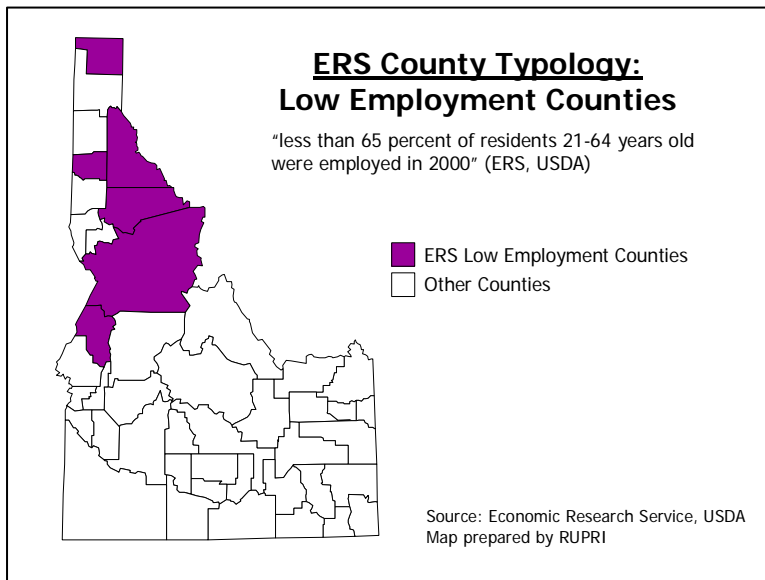


Unemployment

In 2005 the unemployment rate in Idaho was 3.8 percent, compared to 5.1 percent for the nation. Within Idaho, the unemployment rate ranged from 2.4 percent in Madison County to 9.1 percent in Clearwater County.

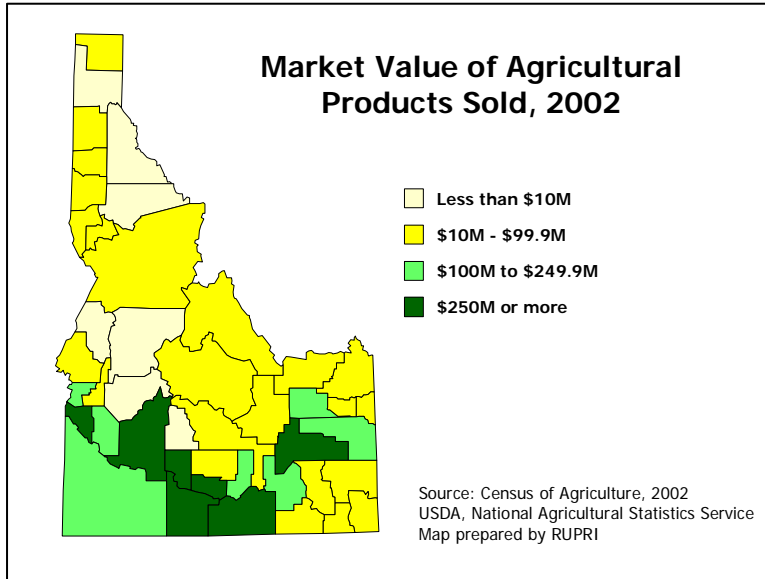


The Economic Research Service classifies counties as low employment counties if “less than 65 percent of residents 21-64 years old were employed in 2000.” In Idaho, six counties, all nonmetro, are classified as low employment counties.

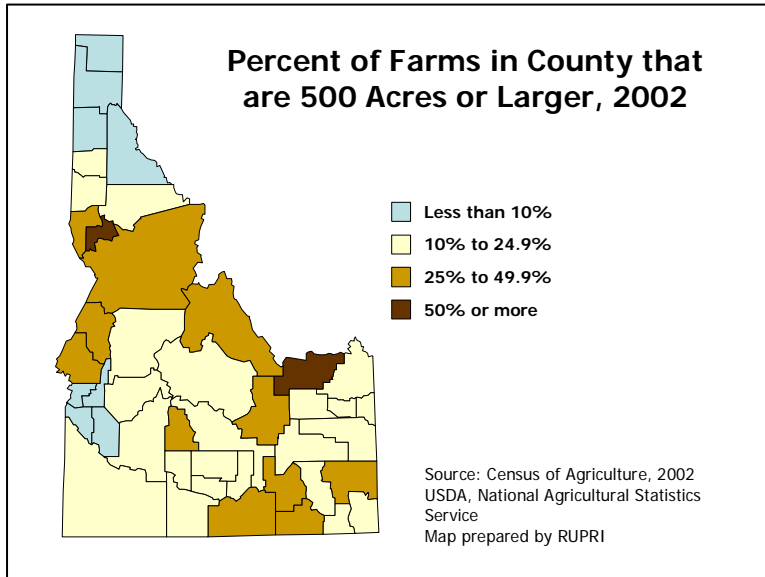


Agriculture

Agriculture is an important industry in Idaho, and 13 counties are classified by the Economic Research Service as farming dependent (see map on page 10). The map below shows the value of agricultural products sold in 2002 for Idaho counties. In 14 counties the value was over \$100 million, and in seven counties the value was over \$250 million.

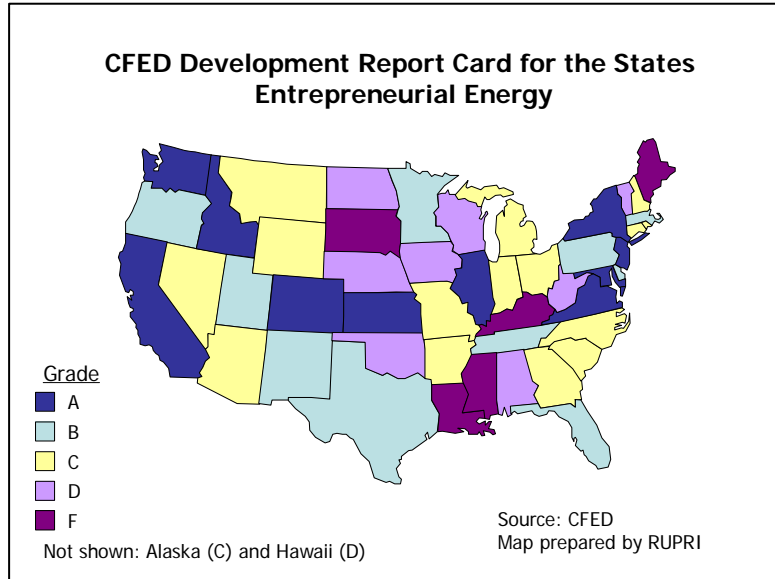


Average farm size in Idaho is 470 acres, and 18 percent of farms are 500 acres or larger. In two counties, over half the farms were 500 acres or larger.

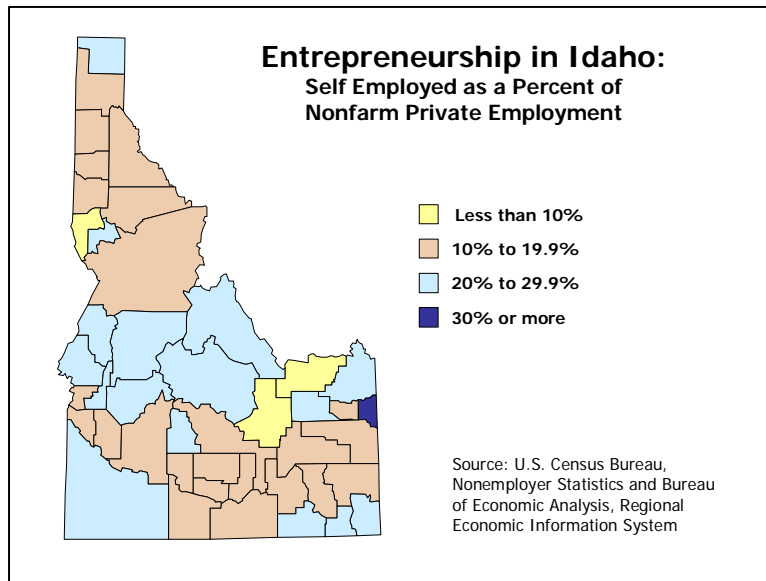


Entrepreneurship

Entrepreneurship is an important component to economic development today. Unfortunately, data that allow us to measure entrepreneurial activity and trends is difficult to ascertain, particularly at the county level. The CFED *Development Report Card for the States* rates each state on its entrepreneurial energy, “evaluating the extent to which new firms are generated and whether they are contributing to employment growth.” While this is a state-level ranking, it provides useful insight as to how a state is performing. Idaho’s ranking is “A”.

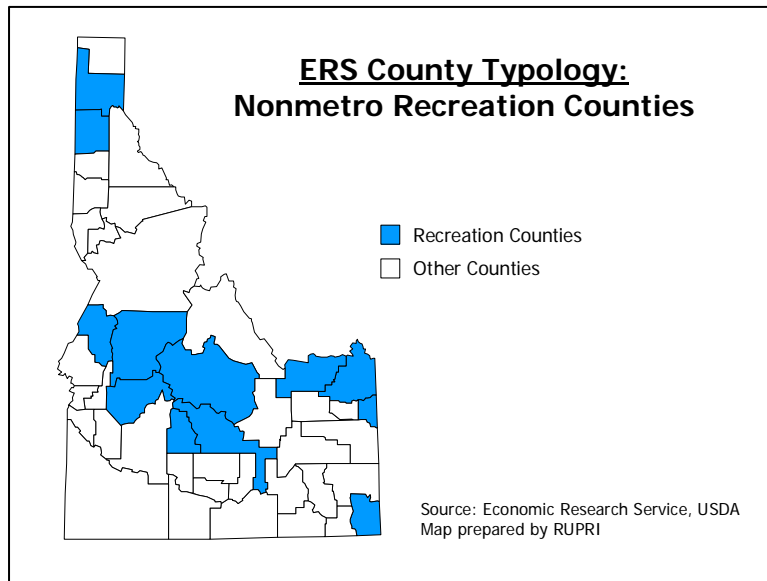


As mentioned, county level indicators of entrepreneurship are difficult to ascertain, but a good indicator is the proportion of workers that are self employed. The map below shows self employed workers as a percent of nonfarm private employment in the county.



Nonmetro Recreation Counties

The Economic Research Service's classification of nonmetro recreation counties captures the recreational opportunities and development in many rural parts of the nation. The classification is based on a number of factors, including employment and income derived from recreation-related activities, seasonal housing units within the county, and receipts from hotels and motels. Nationally, 334 counties are classified as nonmetro recreation counties, and 12 are located in Idaho. Counties that were nonmetro in 1993 or in 2003 are classified. Kootenai and Boise Counties were nonmetro in the 1993 classifications, but changed to metropolitan status in the 2003 classifications.



Data Sources and References

Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System

<http://www.bea.gov/region/reis/>

Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

<http://www.bls.gov/lau/home.htm>

CFED Development Report Card for the States

<http://drc.cfed.org/>

Economic Research Service, USDA, 2004 County Typology

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Briefing/Rurality/Typology/>

Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, Designations of Health Professional Shortage Areas and Medically Underserved Areas and Populations

<http://www.bhpr.hrsa.gov/shortage/>

National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

2002 Census of Agriculture

http://www.nass.usda.gov/Census_of_Agriculture/index.asp

Office of Management and Budget, Statistical Area Definitions and Guidance on Their Uses

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/bulletins/fy05/b05-02.html>

RUPRI Community Information Resource Center Interactive Map Room

<http://circ.rupri.org/>

U.S. Census Bureau

Census 2000

<http://www.census.gov/main/www/cen2000.html>

Population Estimates

<http://www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php>

Metropolitan and Micropolitan Area Classifications

<http://www.census.gov/population/www/estimates/metrodef.html>

Nonemployer Statistics

<http://www.census.gov/epcd/nonemployer/>

Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates

<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/saibe/saibe.html>

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