

## NEWS RELEASE

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### Idaho Hourly Pay on the Rise

Idaho had significantly fewer workers earning at or below the minimum hourly wage in 2014, according to recently released data by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Between 2013 and 2014 the number of Idaho workers who say they earned at or below the federal minimum wage declined from 7.1 percent to 5.1 percent. Fifty-seven percent or 12,000 of the 21,000 Idahoans earning the federal minimum wage or less in 2014 were women. These women represent 5.8 percent of all working women paid hourly in Idaho, compared with 4.4 percent of all men (9,000) with hourly earnings at the minimum wage or less.

Idaho's minimum wage report is one of several recent releases of wage, income and earnings data that suggest the state's labor market is tightening and - along with other related market forces - is having upward pressure on wages.

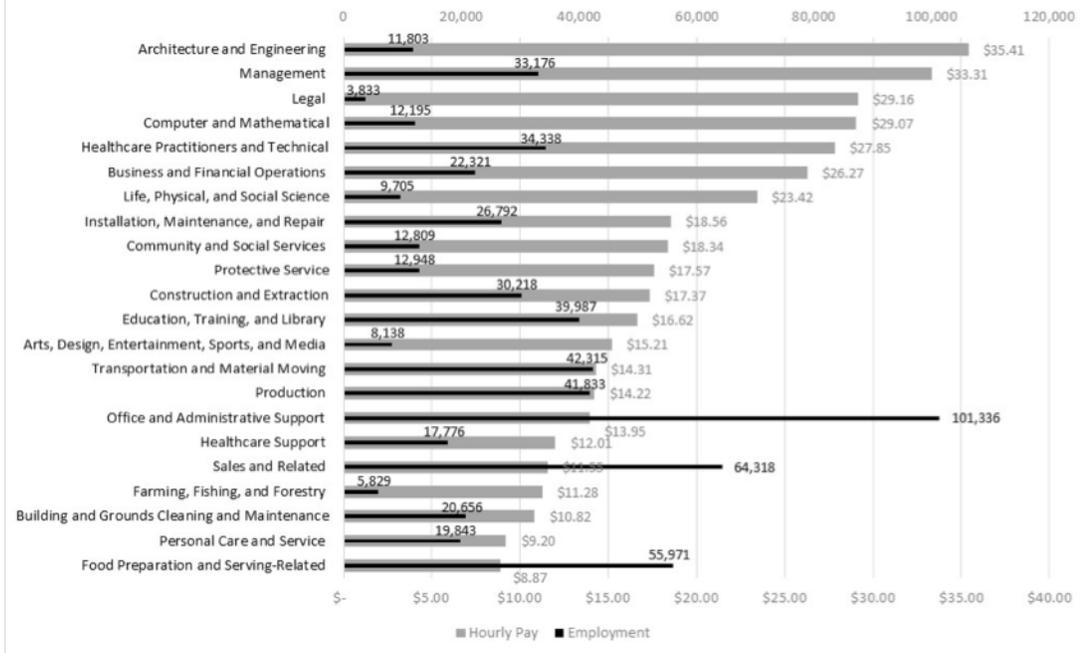
Idaho businesses also are reporting higher wages through the Occupational Employment Statistics program. Median wage data collected from Idaho employers by the department show the average hourly wage paid in 2014 was \$19.12, up from \$18.67 an hour in 2013. Idaho's overall hourly median wage - where exactly half of Idaho workers make more and the other half make less - is \$14.93, up slightly from 2013's median wage of \$14.68.

Detailed wage and employment data for more than 600 occupations in Idaho can be found by state and by region at <http://lmi.idaho.gov/oes>. This occupational dataset also includes employment levels for occupations across the state. Three of the occupational groupings - office and administrative, sales and food preparation - make up more than a third (35 percent) of all employment in Idaho.

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## Hourly Pay and Employment by Occupational Groups

Occupational Employment and Statistics 2014 - Idaho Department of Labor



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Editors: Idaho Department of Labor Director Kenneth D. Edmunds is available for comment and can be reached at (208) 539-1692. Additional details on minimum wage can be found here: [http://www.bls.gov/regions/west/news-release/minimumwageworkers\\_idaho.htm](http://www.bls.gov/regions/west/news-release/minimumwageworkers_idaho.htm)

