

NEWS RELEASE

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Idaho 2015 Average Unemployment Rate was 4.1%

Idaho spent most of 2015 close to full employment with the unemployment rate changing little throughout the year. Full employment is considered a 4 percent unemployment rate.

The state's average unemployment rate for 2015 was 4.1 percent according to revised estimates released today by the Idaho Department of Labor and Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Idaho's labor force showed an average annual increase of 15,946 people in 2015 for a total of 796,679, up 2 percent.

Statewide, total employment also increased in 2015 - up 2.8 percent to 763,907, while the total number of unemployed dropped to 32,772, down 12.6 percent from 2014.

The revised annual average estimates are the result of a benchmark process conducted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The process takes into account updated and additional data to revise 12 months of previously reported labor market numbers by smoothing out the volatility of monthly change.

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Idaho Labor Force Data Annual Average, 2015 and 2014

	Labor Force		Employment		Unemployment		Unemployment Rate	
	Previous	Revised	Previous	Revised	Previous	Revised	Previous	Revised
2015								
Annual Average	795,396	796,679	763,621	763,907	31,775	32,772	4.0	4.1
Growth from previous year	18,539	15,946	24,025	20,673	-5,487	-4,727		
% change from previous year	2.4%	2.0%	3.2%	2.8%	-14.7%	-12.6%		
2014								
Annual Average	776,857	780,733	739,596	743,234	37,262	37,499	4.8	4.8
Growth from previous year	6,703	9,111	15,674	18,452	-8,970	-9,341		
% change from previous year	0.9%	1.2%	2.2%	2.5%	-19.4%	-19.9%		