



# State of Idaho

Prepared by  
Justin Powell  
Jan 11 2022

REVIEWED  
By andersonc at 11:31 am, Feb 02, 2022

## A Report to Our Citizens

Photo Courtesy of Idaho Tourism

### What's Inside

|                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Idaho's Vision and Objectives..... | 1 |
| Idaho's Progress.....              | 2 |
| Idaho's Finances.....              | 3 |
| What's Next?.....                  | 4 |

### Governor Little's Vision

"My goal is to make Idaho a place where we all have the opportunity to thrive, where our children and grandchildren choose to stay, and for the ones who have left to choose to return."

- Governor Brad Little

### Our Kids, Idaho's Future

Governor Little assembled the "Our Kids, Idaho's Future" Task Force to formulate a five-year blueprint for improvement and investment in Idaho's K-12 public education system. The task force members include teachers, school administrators, education stakeholders, business leaders, and a bipartisan group of legislators from every corner of the state. The task force will review the K-12 budget to align investments with the priorities, with the overall goals of improving student achievement, identifying a framework to successfully measure student success, recruit and retain teachers, and others.

### Government Objectives

Promote a strong public education system, reduce regulations and clean up outdated laws, strengthen partnerships and friendships with foreign countries, improve connectivity and broadband infrastructure, combat opioid and substance misuse; reduce wildfire risk, improve forest health, and support jobs through additional, coordinated active land management projects; and gain efficiencies and improve customer service across the state.

### Idaho Rebounds: Our Path To Prosperity

Governor Brad Little, with the help of the Department of Health and Welfare and guidance issued by the White House and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, has established a data-driven approach to opening up Idaho's economy during the COVID-19 pandemic. This approach aims to reduce the risk of COVID-19 to Idahoans and preserve capacity in our healthcare system, while keeping businesses open safely. From an economic standpoint, Idaho's rebound from COVID-19 starts with employee and consumer confidence, which leads into business stability and growth and eventually promotion and attraction.

Governor Little signed an executive order forming his new Coronavirus Financial Advisory Committee to oversee the approximately \$1.3 billion in federal funds that Idaho will receive to fight the COVID-19 pandemic. State Controller Brandon Woolf has partnered with Governor Little to report the use of funds on [Transparent.Idaho.Gov](https://transparent.idaho.gov), giving all Idahoans the opportunity to see how the federal funds are used. The Governor's Coronavirus Financial Advisory Committee will make recommendations to ensure the federal funds are appropriately prioritized and efficiently distributed across state, local and tribal governments. It also will play a critical oversight role to ensure the federal funds are used judiciously and appropriately.

Additional information and resources concerning Idaho's response to the COVID-19 pandemic can be found at: [Coronavirus.Idaho.Gov](https://coronavirus.idaho.gov).

### Demographic Information

| Year   | Population | Per Capita Income | Unemployment Rate | State Employees |
|--------|------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 2020   | 1,821,000  | \$ 49,351         | 5.5%              | 24,643          |
| 2021   | 1,852,000  | \$ 48,370         | 3.0%              | 23,546          |
| Change | 1.7%       | (2.0)%            | (2.5)%            | (4.5)%          |

| School Year | Public School Enrollment | Public Higher Education Enrollment |
|-------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 2019/2020   | 311,991                  | 50,500                             |
| 2020/2021   | 310,653                  | 52,963                             |
| Change      | (0.4)%                   | 4.9%                               |

Sources: October 2021 Idaho Economic Forecast, Office of the Idaho State Controller, Idaho Department of Labor, and Idaho State Board of Education.

# Idaho's Progress

*In Fiscal Year 2021*

Photo Courtesy of Idaho Tourism

## Idaho's Economy

Under Governor Little's leadership, the State's economy has continued to grow. According to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, the value of all goods produced in Idaho rose 1.7 percent from \$82.4 billion in 2019 to \$83.8 billion in 2020 (unadjusted for inflation). Growth in mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction; utilities; construction; finance, insurance, real estate, rental, and leasing; professional and business services; and natural resources and mining accounted for the majority of gross state product increase in 2020.

### Idaho Gross State Product (dollars in millions)

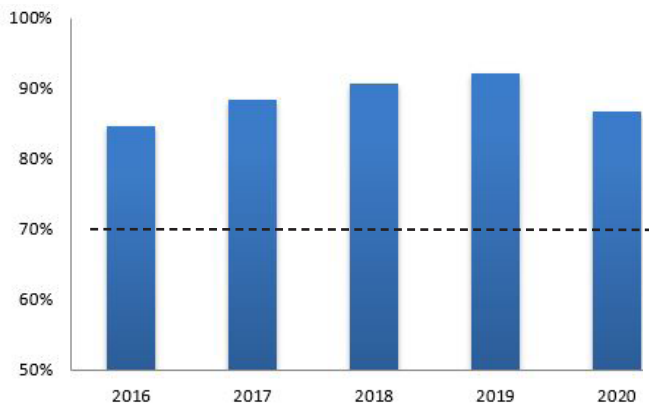
|              | 2017     | 2018     | 2019     | 2020     |
|--------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Yearly Total | \$71,688 | \$77,494 | \$82,420 | \$83,822 |

### Transportation

In order to improve and maintain the State's system of roads and highways, the Legislature authorized the Idaho Transportation Board to issue GARVEE bonds. To date, \$872.9 million has been borrowed from issued bonds.

The graph below illustrates the pavement condition of the State's highways, which has an impact on the operating costs of passenger and commercial vehicles.

### Percent of Pavement in Good or Fair Condition\*



Target: Keep at least 70 percent of all state highways in good or fair condition.

\*Information provided by the Idaho Transportation Department.

### Natural Resources

|                                                   | 2019    | 2020    |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Air Quality Sites Monitored                       | 35      | 34      |
| Water Sites Monitored                             | 260     | 0       |
| Hatchery Fish Raised (in thousands)               | 29,011  | 29,700  |
| Hunting and Fishing Licenses Sold                 | 593,782 | 651,511 |
| Forest Products Harvested (in million board feet) | 191     | 247     |
| Fires Responded to on IDL Land                    | 239     | 257     |
| Park Visitation (in thousands)                    | 5,797   | 7,024   |
| Recreational Registrations (in thousands)         | 301     | N/A     |

### Education

The table below shows the number and type of state-wide degrees awarded over the past three years.

### Degrees Awarded

|            | 2019  | 2020  | 2021  |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Associate  | 3,479 | 3,614 | 3,707 |
| Bachelor's | 6,895 | 6,973 | 7,291 |
| Master's   | 1,782 | 1,968 | 1,991 |
| Doctorate  | 372   | 379   | 468   |

Target: No state-wide target has been identified.



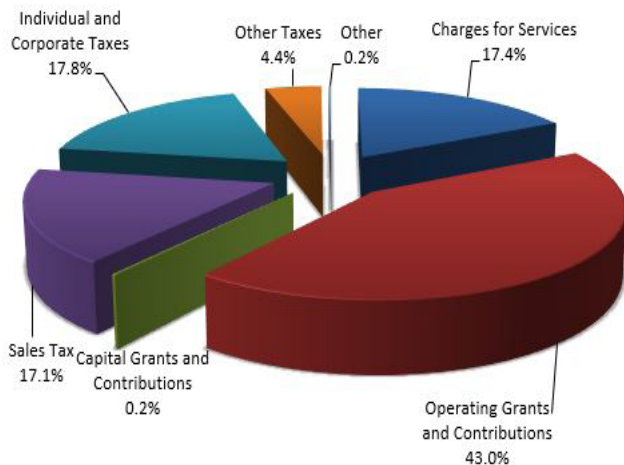
# Idaho's Finances

## Revenues and Expenses

Photo Courtesy of Idaho Tourism

### Primary Government Revenues

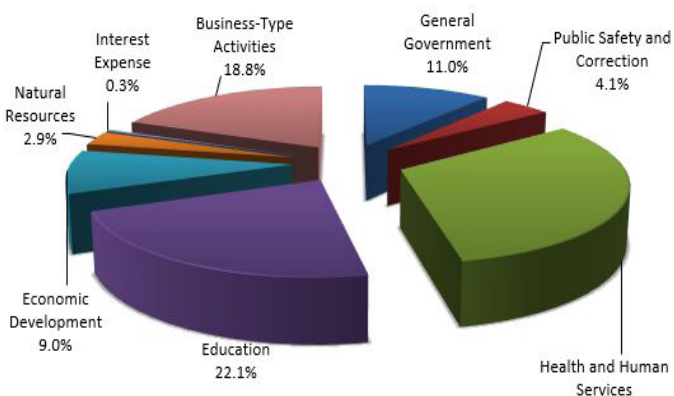
#### Fiscal Year 2021 Revenues by Source



| Revenues By Source<br>(dollars in thousands) | 2020<br>Revenues     | 2021<br>Revenues     | Change       |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Charges for Services                         | \$ 2,135,147         | \$ 2,570,196         | 20.4%        |
| Operating Grants and Contributions           | 4,734,215            | 6,365,283            | 34.5%        |
| Capital Grants and Contributions             | 44,547               | 31,449               | (29.4)%      |
| Sales Tax                                    | 2,107,259            | 2,529,066            | 20.0%        |
| Individual and Corporate Taxes               | 2,175,242            | 2,636,267            | 21.2%        |
| Other Taxes                                  | 616,517              | 652,385              | 5.8%         |
| Other                                        | 70,284               | 28,702               | (59.2)%      |
| <b>Total Revenue</b>                         | <b>\$ 11,883,211</b> | <b>\$ 14,813,348</b> | <b>24.7%</b> |

### Primary Government Expenses

#### Fiscal Year 2021 Expenses by Source



| Expenses by Source<br>(dollars in thousands) | 2020<br>Expenses     | 2021<br>Expenses     | Change       |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| General Government                           | \$ 743,224           | \$ 1,400,519         | 88.4%        |
| Public Safety and Correction                 | 495,324              | 518,527              | 4.7%         |
| Health and Human Services                    | 3,434,555            | 4,051,255            | 18.0%        |
| Education                                    | 2,461,028            | 2,817,353            | 14.5%        |
| Economic Development                         | 978,414              | 1,144,247            | 16.9%        |
| Natural Resources                            | 317,428              | 364,495              | 14.8%        |
| Interest Expense                             | 57,873               | 44,117               | (23.8)%      |
| Business-Type Activities                     | 2,307,250            | 2,389,177            | 3.6%         |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>                        | <b>\$ 10,795,096</b> | <b>\$ 12,729,690</b> | <b>17.9%</b> |

An independent audit of the State's financial statements (the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report) resulted in a clean audit opinion.



To view the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, please visit the State Controller's website at [www.sco.idaho.gov](http://www.sco.idaho.gov)



# What's Next?

## Future Challenges and Economic Outlook

Photo Courtesy of Idaho Tourism

### Future Challenges

#### Education

In his 2021 State of the State Address, the Governor emphasized that education remains his number one priority. He stated that, “We need to continue to invest in an education system that gives the next generation of Idahoans a solid foundation for lifelong learning and meaningful employment, here at home in Idaho.” While the COVID-19 pandemic highlighted school as a strongpoint in our communities in 2020/2021, it also caused disruptions in education delivery; the Governor asserted that we must close the achievement gap. To assist in getting children back on track, he outlined his “Building Idaho’s Future” plan, which recommends investments in literacy. The Governor also spoke to the importance of making investments in internet connectivity to ensure that all children have equal access to education.

#### Health Care

The Governor communicated that in order to protect lives and elevate healthcare capacity, we allocated new and effective treatments to minimize the time COVID-19 patients spend in the hospital. Millions of dollars were put toward testing of long-term facility workers in COVID-only facilities. The Governor stated that by cutting red tape to expand access to more medical professionals, 1,100 more nursing professionals were licensed since the previous spring (2020). Additionally, regulations were lifted to expand telehealth access, allowing Idahoans to access care from the safety of their homes.

### Idaho’s Outlook

#### Economy

According to the October 2021 Economic Forecast, published by the Idaho Division of Financial Management, Idaho’s economy is expected to continue to outperform in its recovery from the recession induced from the pandemic. The Governor commented part of the reason Idaho’s economy is ahead of other states is because of the regulatory rollbacks achieved before and during the pandemic. He stated that while other states face potential budget cuts of 20 to 40 percent or more, Idaho is in the enviable position of having a record budget surplus. The Governor outlined his plan, “Building Idaho’s Future,” which included a proposal of more than \$450 million in tax relief to put more money back into the pockets of hardworking Idahoans.

#### Employment

According to the aforementioned economic forecast, nonfarm job growth in Idaho is estimated as coming in at 5.8 percent in 2021 and 4.4 percent in 2022. Idaho’s labor-force participation has been stronger than the nation’s, roughly 0.8 percentage points above national readings.

#### Housing Market

Idaho is still facing the challenge of strong migration and matching newcomers with housing. Housing starts are expected to grow from a slightly lower base across the next few years. Median home prices in Idaho have been consistently growing in the past few years, with a 30 percent increase in the second quarter of 2021.

### Idaho’s Economic Outlook

|                    | 2021      | 2022      | 2023       | 2024       |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|
| Personal Income    | \$ 95,290 | \$ 95,917 | \$ 102,411 | \$ 108,795 |
| Percentage Change  | 7.0%      | 0.7%      | 6.8%       | 6.2%       |
| Wages              | \$ 42,370 | \$ 46,573 | \$ 50,241  | \$ 54,066  |
| Population         | 1,866,870 | 1,912,859 | 1,954,802  | 1,989,341  |
| Nonfarm Employment | 803,207   | 838,543   | 869,216    | 895,090    |
| Housing Starts     | 20,527    | 18,056    | 18,822     | 20,162     |



We want to hear from you. Do you like this report? What information would you like to see in next year’s report? Your input is important to us. Please let us know by contacting: [cafr@sco.idaho.gov](mailto:cafr@sco.idaho.gov)

