

There's a lot more to Idaho than great potatoes!

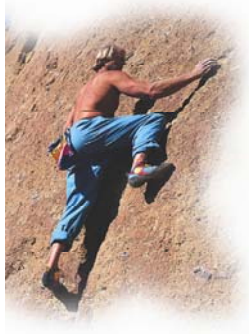


You won't get soaked with high business costs.

Comparing labor costs, tax burdens, and energy costs, Economy.com ranks Idaho among the top 10 in lowest costs of doing business.

Your workers comp rates will go downhill.

Today, Idaho's workers comp rates are over 25% less than 1994 rates, which means Idaho employers pay some of the lowest premiums in the country.



Energy costs are not climbing as high here.

What goes up, we hope will come down. However, in this changing energy marketplace, Idaho still has some of the lowest natural gas and electricity rates in the country. Sitting atop the north-south pipeline and with two-thirds of our electric energy generated from hydropower, we're looking for improvement in both cost and supply in the future.

Pull the reins in on labor costs.

In Idaho, we boast of a skilled, highly productive labor force that is highly motivated and ready to work. With reasonable wages and living costs, Idaho's labor climate is right for business.



Per capita taxes are so low, it's wild.

Idaho's overall tax burden is among the lowest in the West. Plus, our per capita debt is the lowest in the nation.

Employment benefits are quite a bargain.

Employers love Idaho's lower medical insurance costs, lower workers compensation insurance rates, lower retirement plan contributions, and lower expense for paid vacations and holidays. At the same time, our high work output is a direct result of a work ethic you'll be hard pressed to find elsewhere.



Unemployment costs are far from sky high.

In 2005, Idaho passed legislation preventing a significant automatic tax increase and replaced the old law with a new balanced tax plan. What's more, Idaho remains one of only a few states that have never experienced an insolvent unemployment insurance trust fund.



Business Sparkles in Idaho's Silver Valley



The Trail of Opportunity

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A wealth of possibilities as a development destination.

The Silver Valley, true to its name, was the greatest silver mining center in the country. From 1890 until 1982, vast deposits of silver, gold, lead and zinc were an abundant, underground treasure waiting to be tapped all along the territory. As the price of silver and base metals decreased, however, the mining industry waned and community leaders sought to implement changes and diversify the economic base of the region.

Quality Education & Training Opportunities

University of Idaho offers outreach and college programs as well as continuing education, training and technical facilities at nearby centers in Coeur d'Alene and Post Falls. North Idaho College, has established a satellite campus in the heart of the Silver Valley offering a variety of programs.

The Idaho Workforce Development Training Fund provides jobs skill training to help train new employees and to provide current employees with further training to keep their skill competitive. In addition, partnerships with NIC and the Panhandle Area Council (PAC) provide the training and advisory services to help companies compete effectively.

Solid Infrastructure for Your Business Needs

Our area's electrical rates are in the lowest 10% nationally even when using only half of our area's capacity. Likewise, natural gas is a good value and readily available.

We are blessed with plentiful natural resources. Local water districts have large capacity, at very reasonable rates. Our valley has newly constructed sewer capacity, as well as broadband capabilities to serve business telecommunication requirements.

The Silver Valley Business Center offers expansion space for the technology businesses. The 142-acre Greater Silver Valley

Business Revitalization Project is on line to provide expanding manufacturing and industrial based companies with land to purchase or lease at competitive pricing. PAC and the regional Small Business Development Center offer training and advisory services.

An Available & Cost-Effective Workforce

From basic labor to skilled craftsmen and professional engineers, Silver Valley's workforce is eager, ready and waiting to meet the demands of a growing business. The region's low cost of living also means that wage rates are affordable.

Transportation Connections that Link Us to the World

Interstate 90, which runs through the Silver Valley, connects Seattle and Boston. Major trucking service is available. Rail services in Spokane, Washington (70 miles west on I-90) and the Port of Lewiston provide us with great flexibility in serving national and



Key Business Advantages in Idaho's Silver Valley

- Higher education resources
- Workforce training programs
- Low-cost electricity and natural gas
- Abundant water Resources
- Broadband and telecommunications services
- Available workforce
- Immediate national connections for air, truck and railway
- Business and financial support programs
- Unmatched scenic beauty

international customers.

Business travelers have access to all major U.S. destinations from Spokane's International Airport. The Shoshone County Airport services private and corporate aircraft.



For more information on Idaho's Silver Valley business advantages, contact **Vince Rinaldi**, Executive Director.



Silver Valley Economic Development Corporation

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Solid Local & Corporate Business Community

We have a host of small manufacturers and solid tourism business ventures that exemplify the stability of our region. Our goal is to streamline the business expansion or relocation with certainty and expediency.

Financial Programs Support Business

The Silver Valley Economic Development Corporation (SVEDC) assists businesses in all levels of their expansion or relocation process, and attracting financing packages. Panhandle Area Council (PAC) and local lenders work closely to build multiple-source financing for desirable projects.

Unbeatable Quality of Life

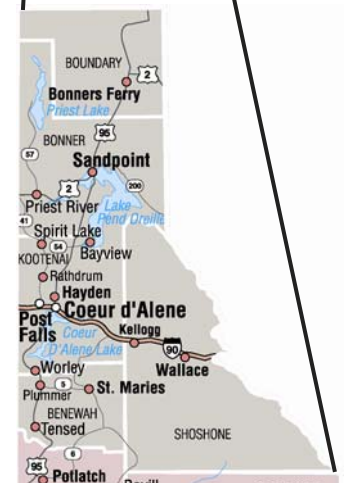
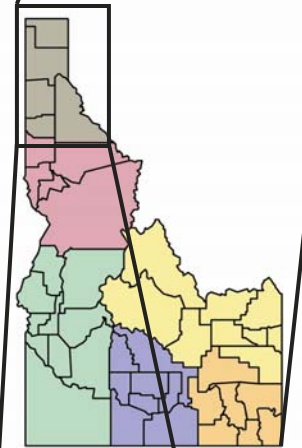
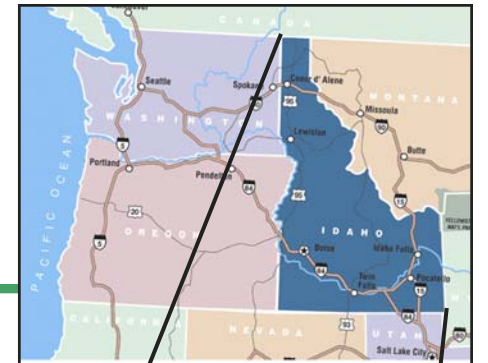
A small town atmosphere with big economic opportunities, the valley offers affordable housing and reasonable land values to make your move affordable. An excellent local school system and low crime rates also make the region a positive and productive atmosphere in which to raise a family. The Silver Valley is a unique setting. You, your family and your business can find a home in which recreation and quality of life go hand-in-hand with a thriving and growing business community.

Recreation All Year Round

Mountains, abundant forests and the Silver Valley, which is bisected by the Coeur d'Alene River, offer endless outdoor recreation in all seasons. Coeur d'Alene Lake,



described by National Geographic as one of the world's most beautiful, is a focal point for summer water sports, boasting over 110 miles of shoreline and crystal-clear waters for boating, sailing, fishing and swimming. The terrain of northern Idaho also makes the area an attractive recreational outlet for those who enjoy hiking, hunting, camping, biking, and golfing. In the winter, the valley transforms into a wonderland of mountain recreation offering alpine and cross-country skiing, snowboarding, and snowmobiling.



Silver Valley Economic Development Corporation (SVEDC) is operated exclusively for the promotion of economic development in a scenic north Idaho region situated along the Coeur d'Alene River system. The region includes the communities of Mullan, Wallace, Osburn, Kelllogg, Wardner, Smelterville and Pinehurst.