

# A Great Place to Grow

## OVERVIEW

Idaho may be known for its spuds but its roots in agriculture and food production run much deeper.

This is the big leagues of the food industry and the proud home to a long line of farm and food innovators.

Farming legends like J.R. Simplot have transformed Idaho from a simple agricultural producer into a global powerhouse where businesses can thrive.

Several major food companies have moved their operations to the state: dairy producers, potato processors, energy bar makers and fruit product manufacturers call Idaho home.

## INDUSTRY LEADERS

**The J.R. Simplot Company** (Boise) has major operations in ranching, food processing, mining, retail and fertilizer production in several U.S. states.

**Chobani** (Twin Falls) opened the world's largest yogurt plant in Idaho. The record-breaking one million square foot factory was complete in just 326 days.

**Glanbia** (Twin Falls/Gooding) is the world's largest American-style cheese manufacturer and one of the largest whey ingredient producers.

**Materne** (Nampa) is a market leader in creating innovative snacks like GoGo squeeZ. The company has based a production line expansion in Nampa since 2019.

**McCain** (Burley) is the world's largest producer of french fries and potato specialties, and recently expanded their Idaho production facility to meet increased product demand and supply, in one of the largest millwork operations.



## DID YOU KNOW?

Beer, wine and spirits production are booming. Manufacturing, distribution and raw materials needed to get business brewing are accessible and plentiful. Companies include: Sockeye Brewing, St. Chapelle Winery, Payette Brewing, Cinder Vineyards, Koenig Winery & Distillery and Grand Teton Vodka.



## QUICK FACTS ON THE IDAHO FOOD PRODUCTION INDUSTRY

**\$3.9B**

Contributed to Idaho's GDP

**1,892**

Establishments

**38,919**

Jobs

**\$53,399**

Average wage

**12.7%**

10-Year Projected Growth Rate

\*All employment and wage numbers are from IDOL, and GDP data is from the Bureau of Economic Analysis.



## WORKFORCE

Idaho is the top-ranked state in key food industry occupations with a workforce over three times the national concentration.

The expertise of our workforce will help your business grow. Idaho's colleges and universities provide valuable skills, knowledge and resources by working directly with businesses to set up tailored training and coursework programs.

Yogurt giant, **Chobani**, developed its customized training programs with the help of the College of Southern Idaho.

On average, nearly 5.4% of the state's total workforce are employed in agriculture and food processing.

Idaho ranks in the top three states nationally for a number of food machine operators, food producers and food batch makers in relation to population.



## ECONOMIC IMPACT

Idaho produces over 185 different agriculture products and processed goods including dairy, potatoes, meat, frozen fruits and vegetables and specialty foods.

Nearly 6 million acres of Idaho land are devoted to crop production, which is just over 11% of the state's total area.

The Gem State is home to 350 food manufacturers ranging from seeds to crops to dairy production, to frozen entrees and prepared foods.

In total, agriculture and food product manufacturing comprise over 9% of Idaho's gross domestic product (GDP).

## IDAHO KNOWS GROCERIES



Home to two of the industry's top grocers, Idaho is poised to ensure carts across the country are full. **Albertsons**, one of the largest food and drug retailers in the U.S., is based in Boise, Idaho. Its stores include over 2,300 supermarkets across 35 states. Albertsons is home to over 275,000 employees and produces over \$59.9 billion in sales and revenue in 2017. Established and headquartered in Boise, Idaho, **WinCo Foods** has 123 grocery locations across nine states. WinCo employs over 18,000 people and created over \$7 billion in sales between 2017-2018.