



RESEARCH & BUSINESS  
DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Eastern Idaho COVID-19 Economic Report | May 11, 2020

## About the Report

The RBDC is tracking the economic impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on eastern Idaho. The report is compiled by RBDC student research teams and will be updated weekly. We hope you find the report helpful to you. We appreciate the organizations that have contributed funds to make this report available. Please contact Will Jenson ([w.jenson@rbdcenter.org](mailto:w.jenson@rbdcenter.org)) if you would like to participate in our weekly industry surveys or would like to contribute to our report in some other way.

-Thank you

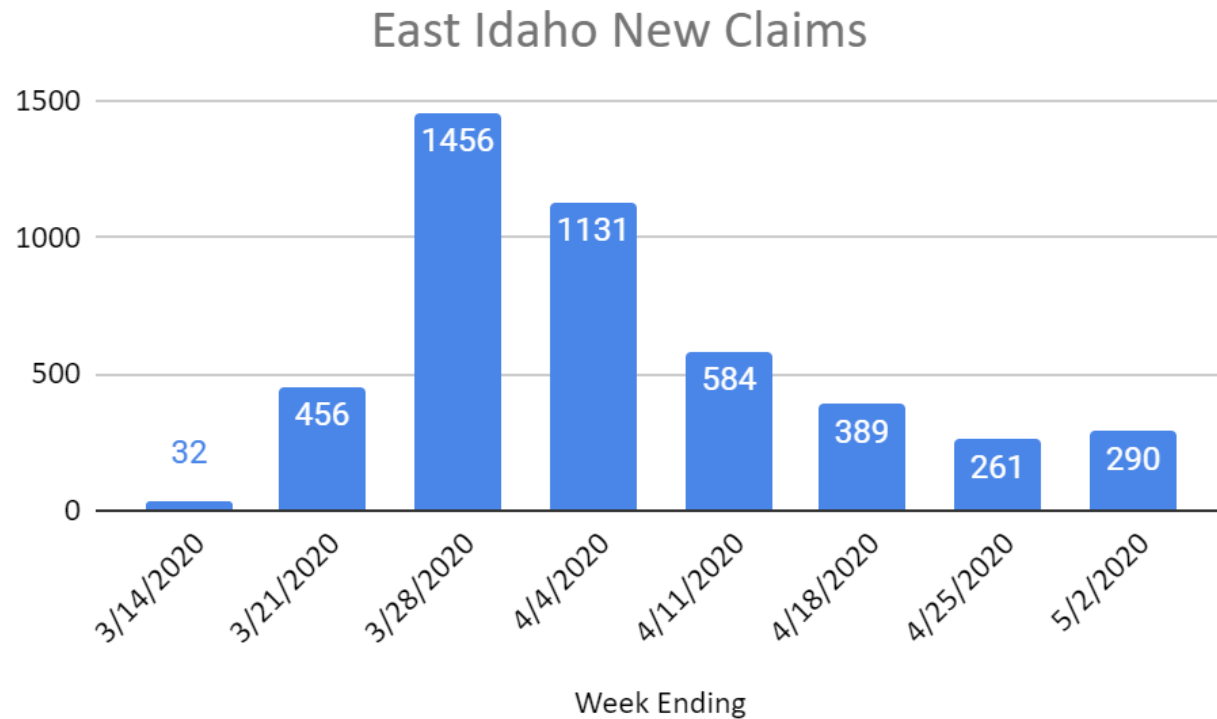
## New This Week

- Eastern Idaho's Unemployment Claims rose slightly this week after 4 weeks of decline.
- Bonneville and Madison building permits in March and April are comparable to 2019. Jefferson County permits showed a significant increase.
- Bonneville County traffic counts are continuing to rise from past weeks and are nearing pre shutdown levels.
- Consumer confidence is split in Eastern Idaho.

## Definitions

An **initial claim** is a claim filed by an unemployed individual after a separation from an employer. The claimant requests a determination of basic eligibility for the UI program. When an initial claim is filed with a state, certain programmatic activities take place and these result in activity counts including the count of initial claims. The count of initial claims for unemployment insurance is a leading economic indicator because it is an indication of emerging labor market conditions in the country. However, these are weekly administrative data which are difficult to seasonally adjust, making the series subject to some volatility.

# Weekly Initial Unemployment Claims



Source: Idaho Department of Labor

Week Ending 5/2/2020

Week #18

Idaho Total Claims: 7,495

East Idaho Claims: 290

Week Ending 4/25/2020

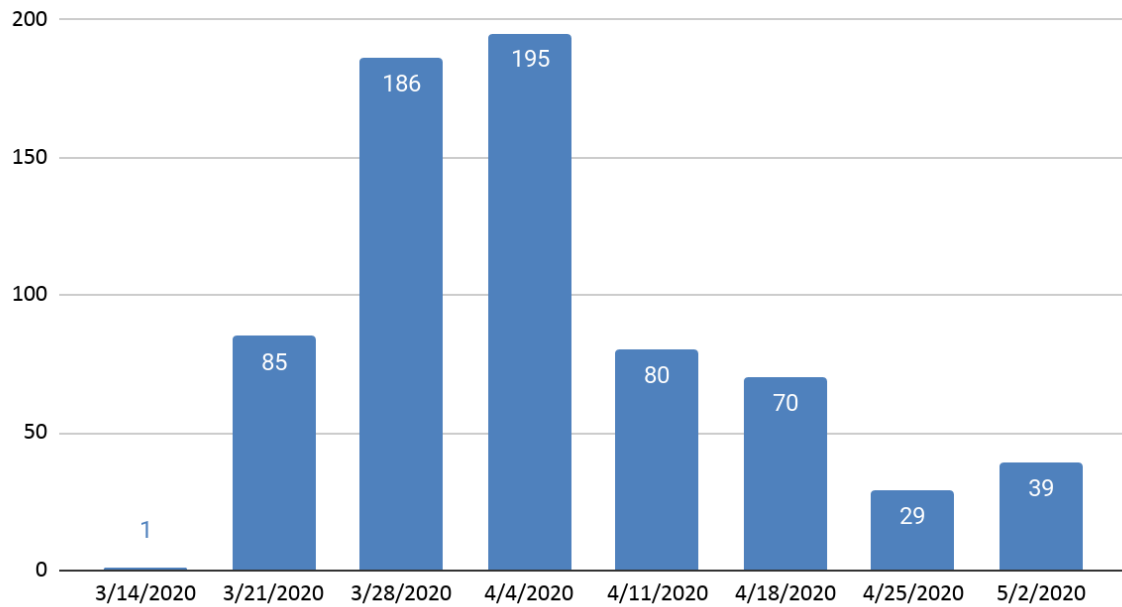
Week #17

Idaho Total Claims: 8,827

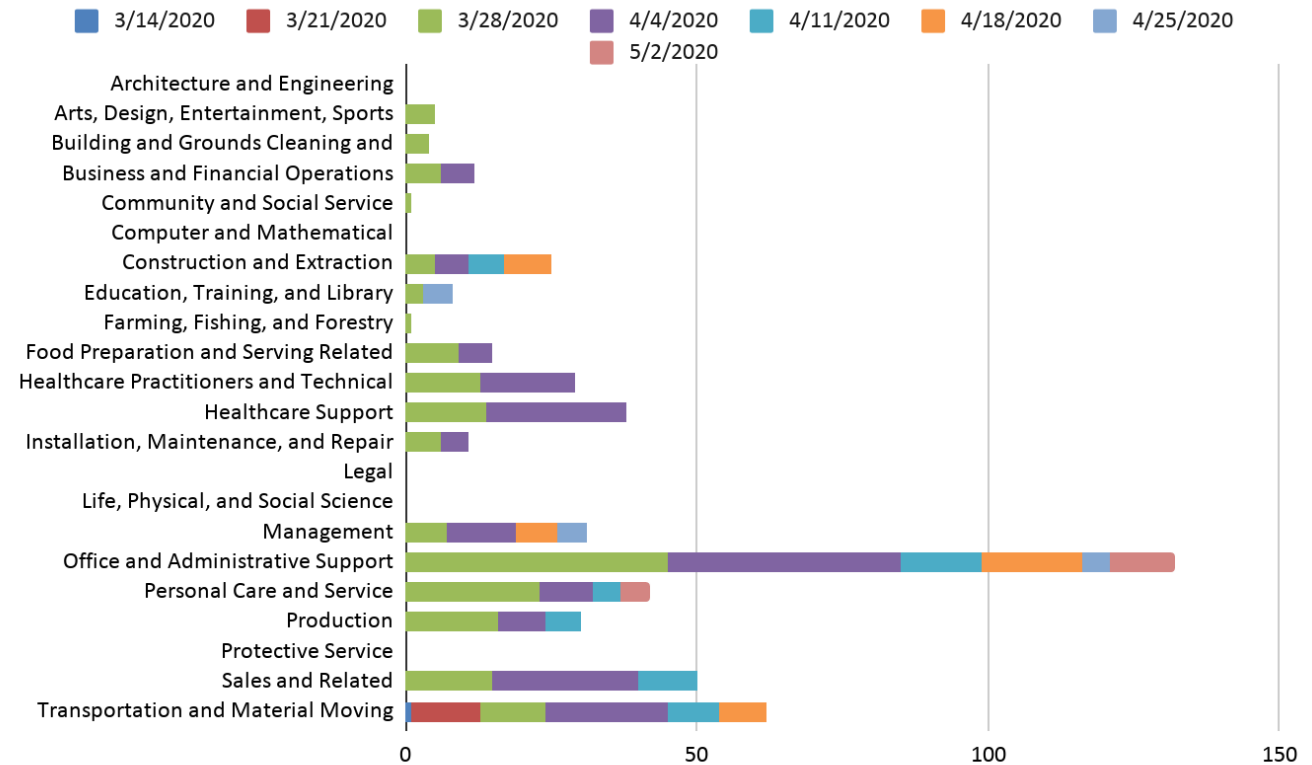
East Idaho Claims: 261

# Initial Claims – Madison County

## Madison County Initial Claims by Week

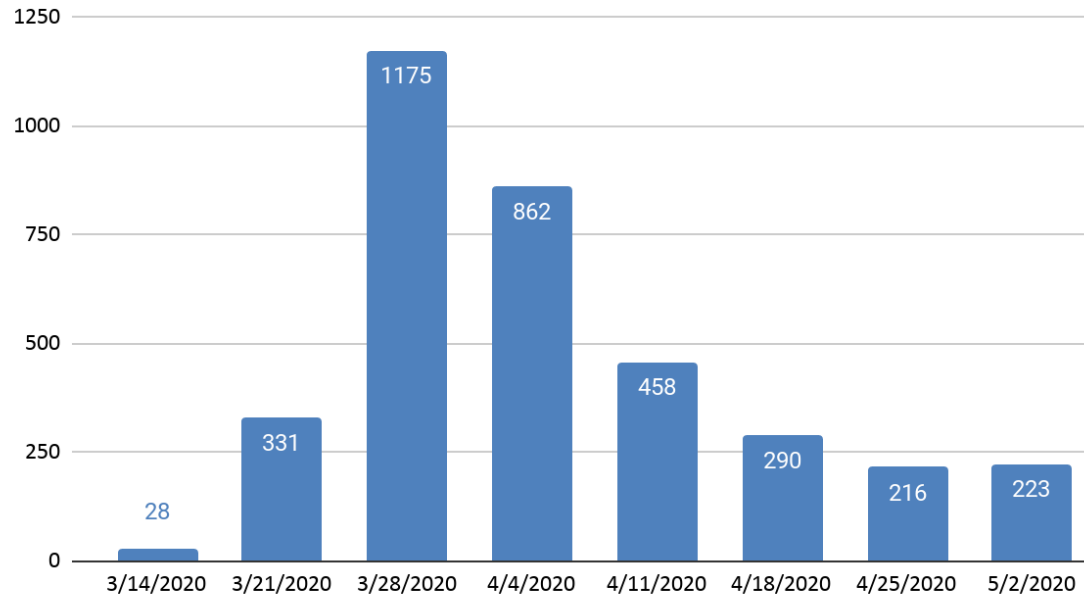


## Madison County Initial Claims by Occupation

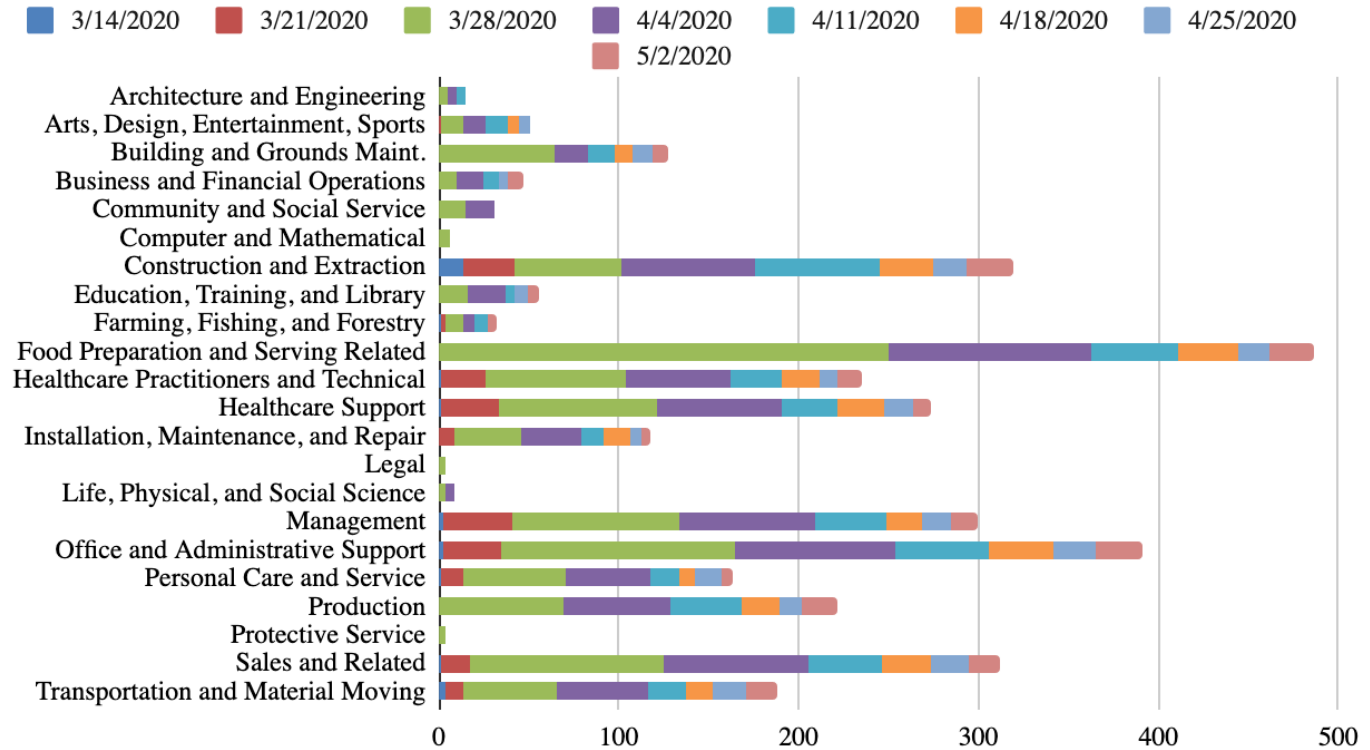


# Initial Claims – Bonneville County

Bonneville County Initial Claims by Week

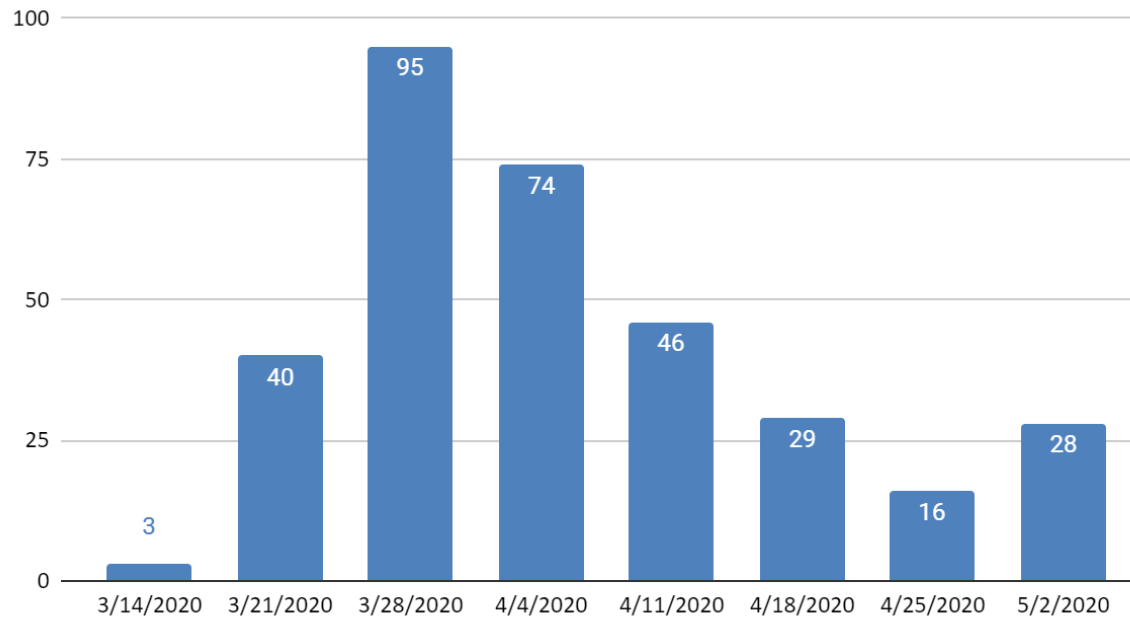


Bonneville County Initial Claims by Occupation

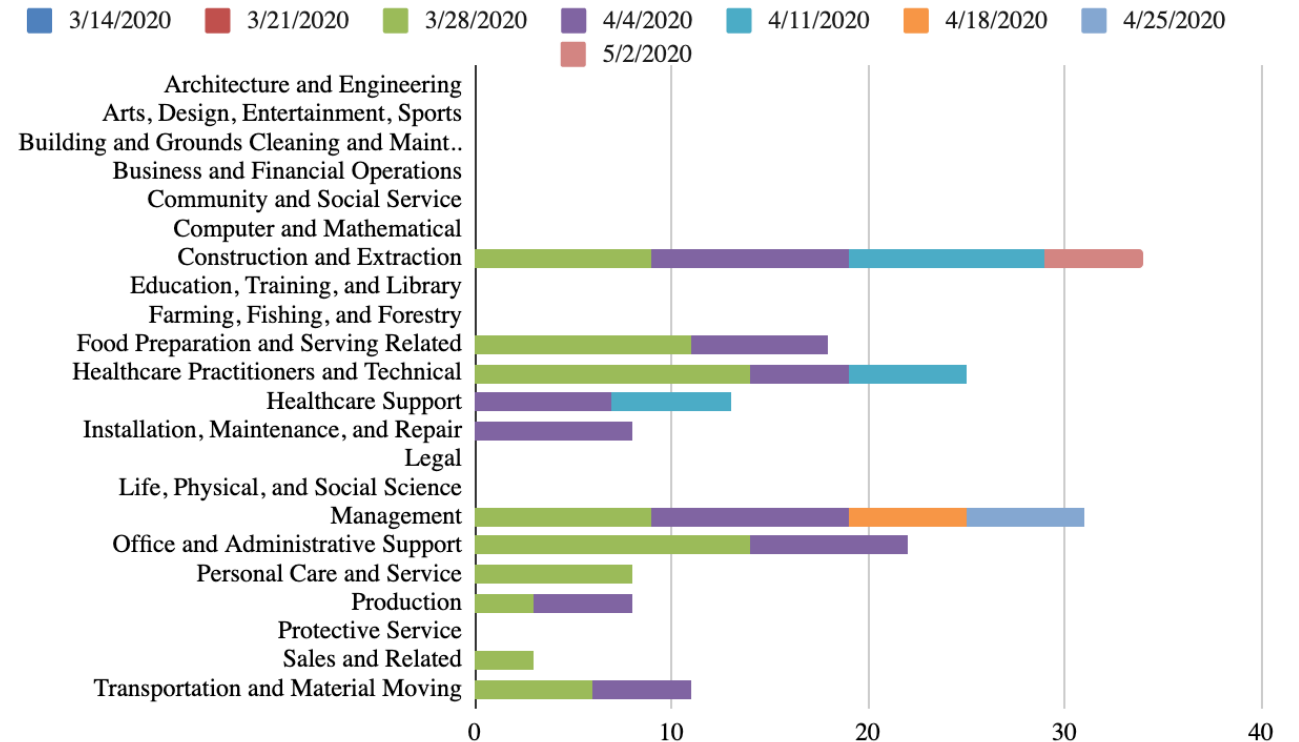


# Initial Claims – Jefferson County

Jefferson County Initial Claims by Week



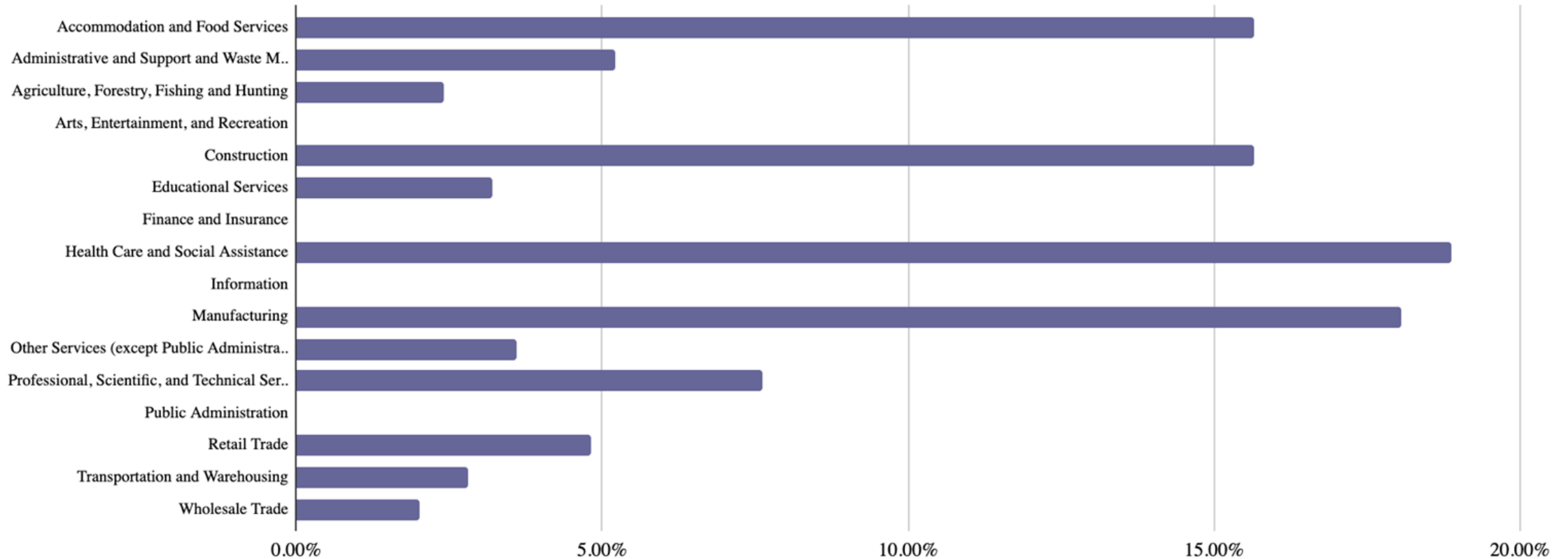
Jefferson County Initial Claims by Occupation





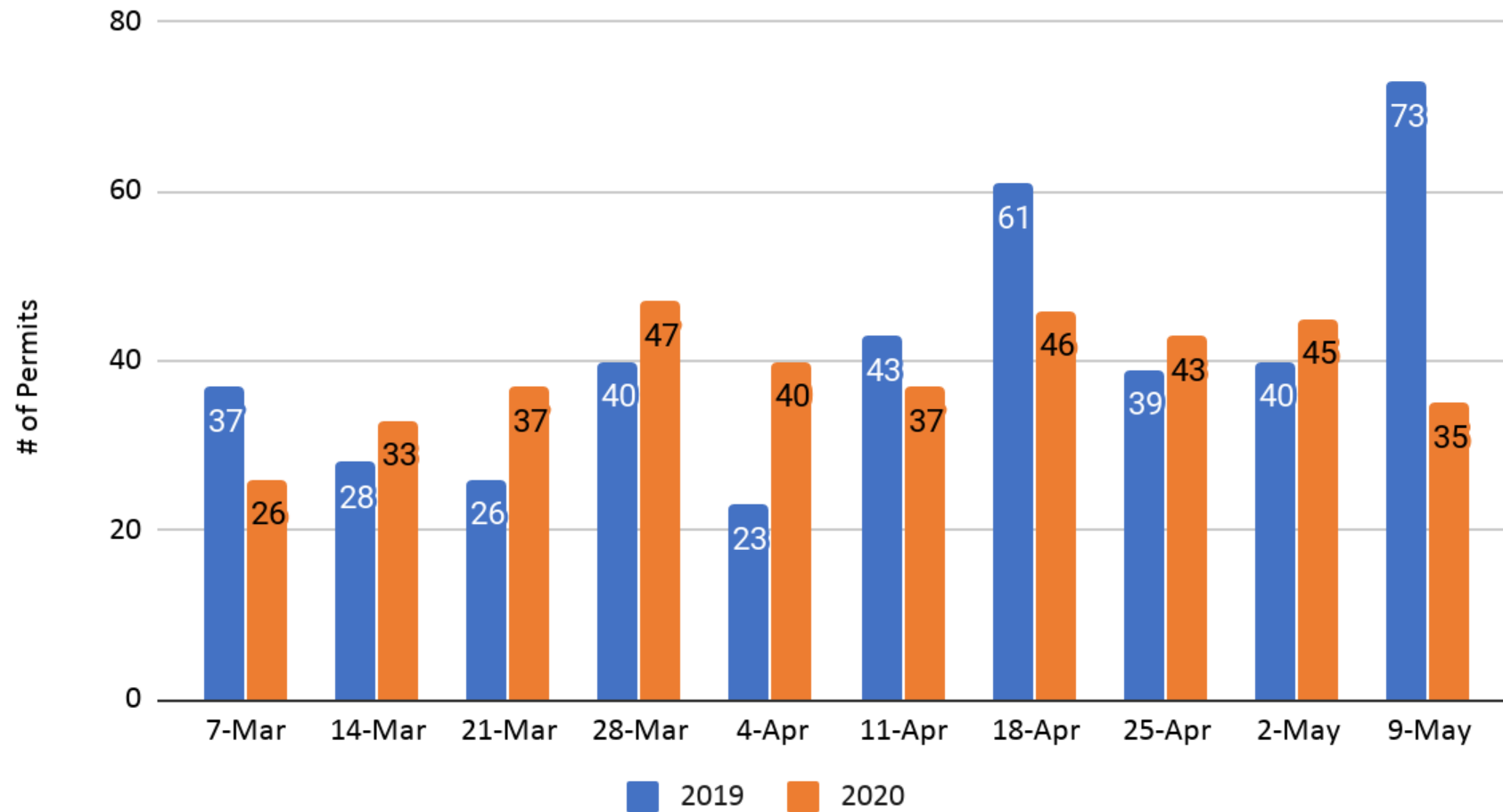
# Initial Claims – Bonneville, Jefferson, Madison Counties

What Industries did the claimants work in?



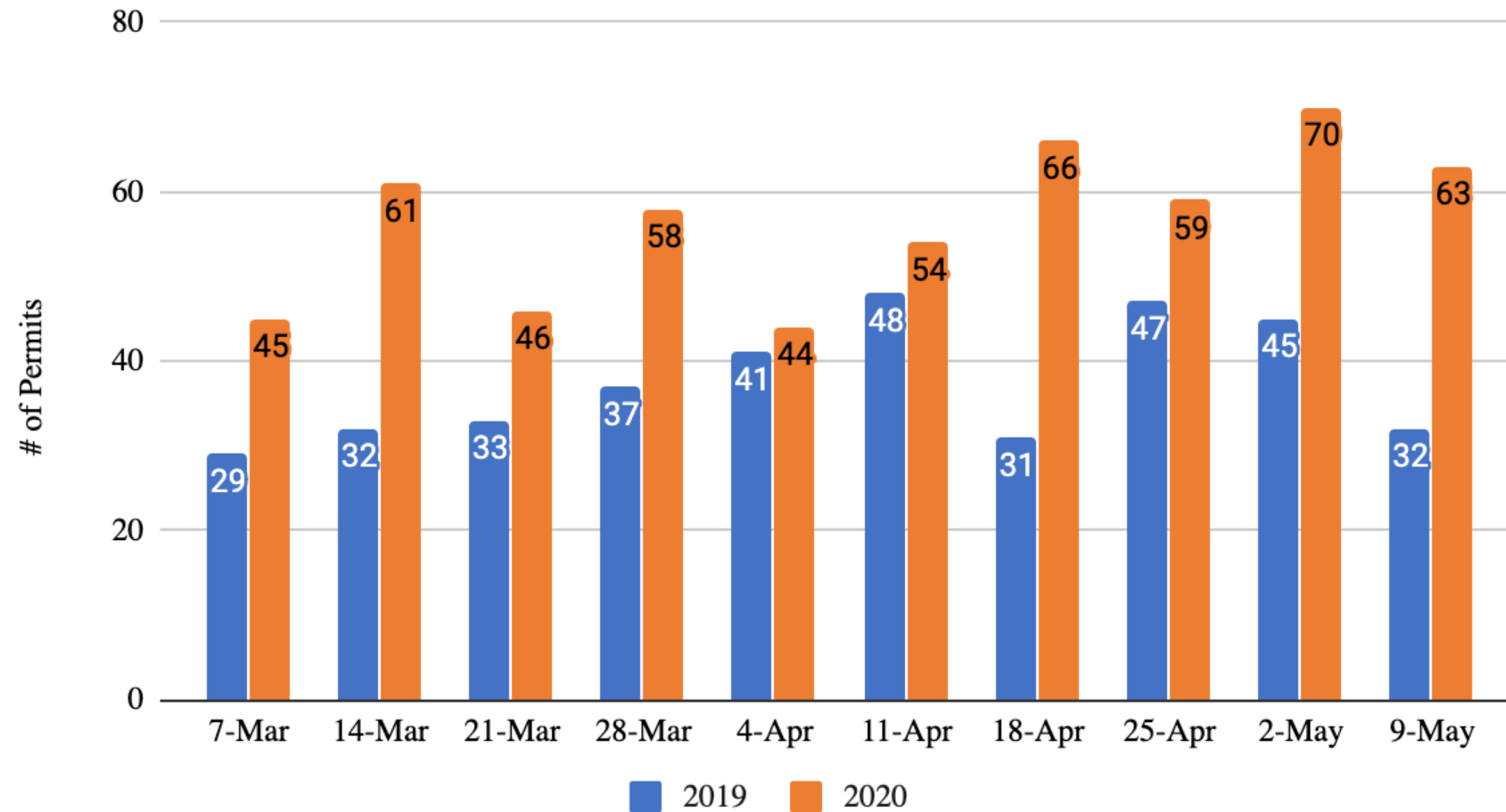
# Building Permits – Bonneville County

## Bonneville County Building Permits



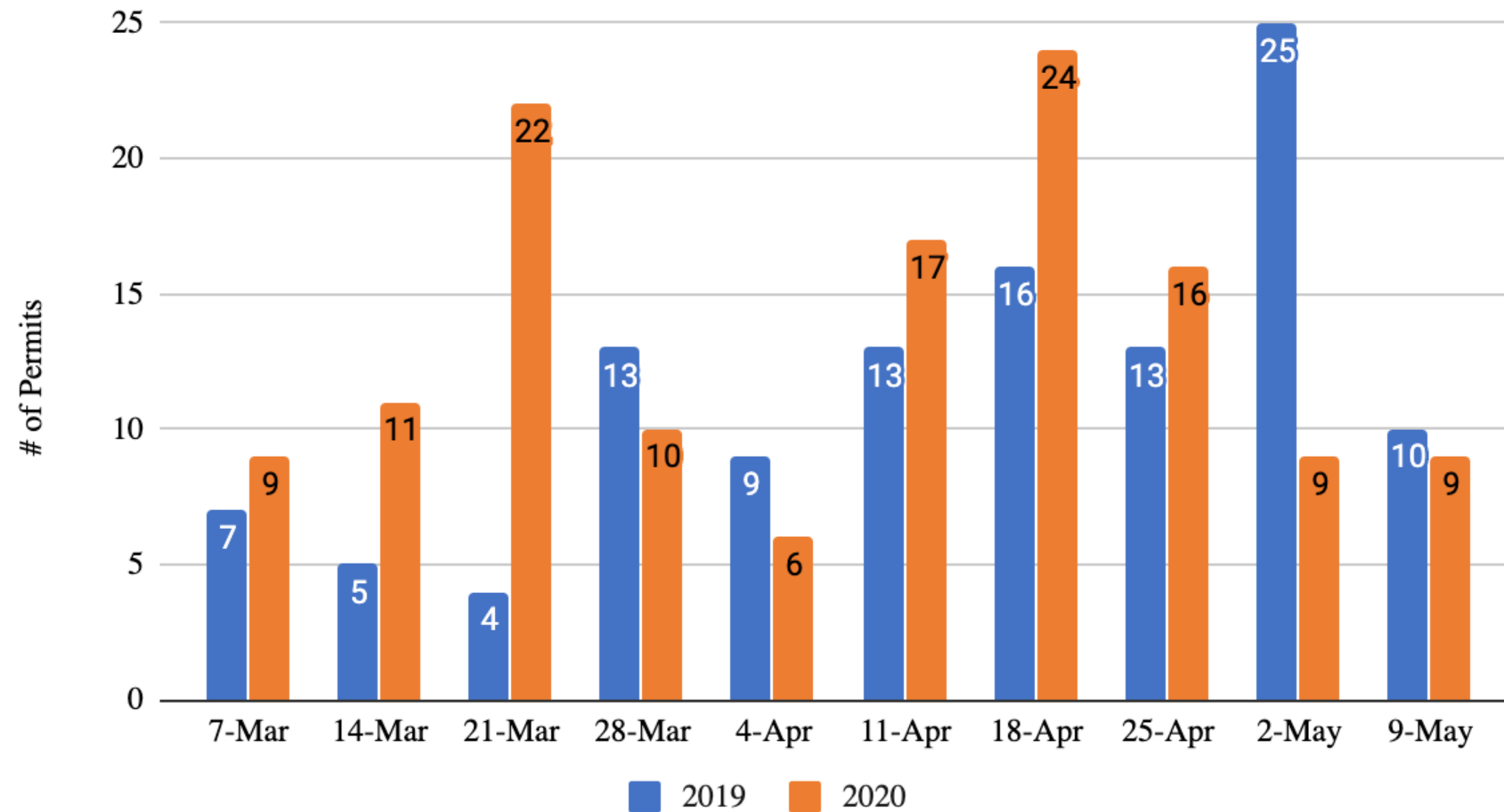
# Building Permits – Jefferson County

## Jefferson County Building Permits



# Building Permits – Madison County

## Madison County Building Permits

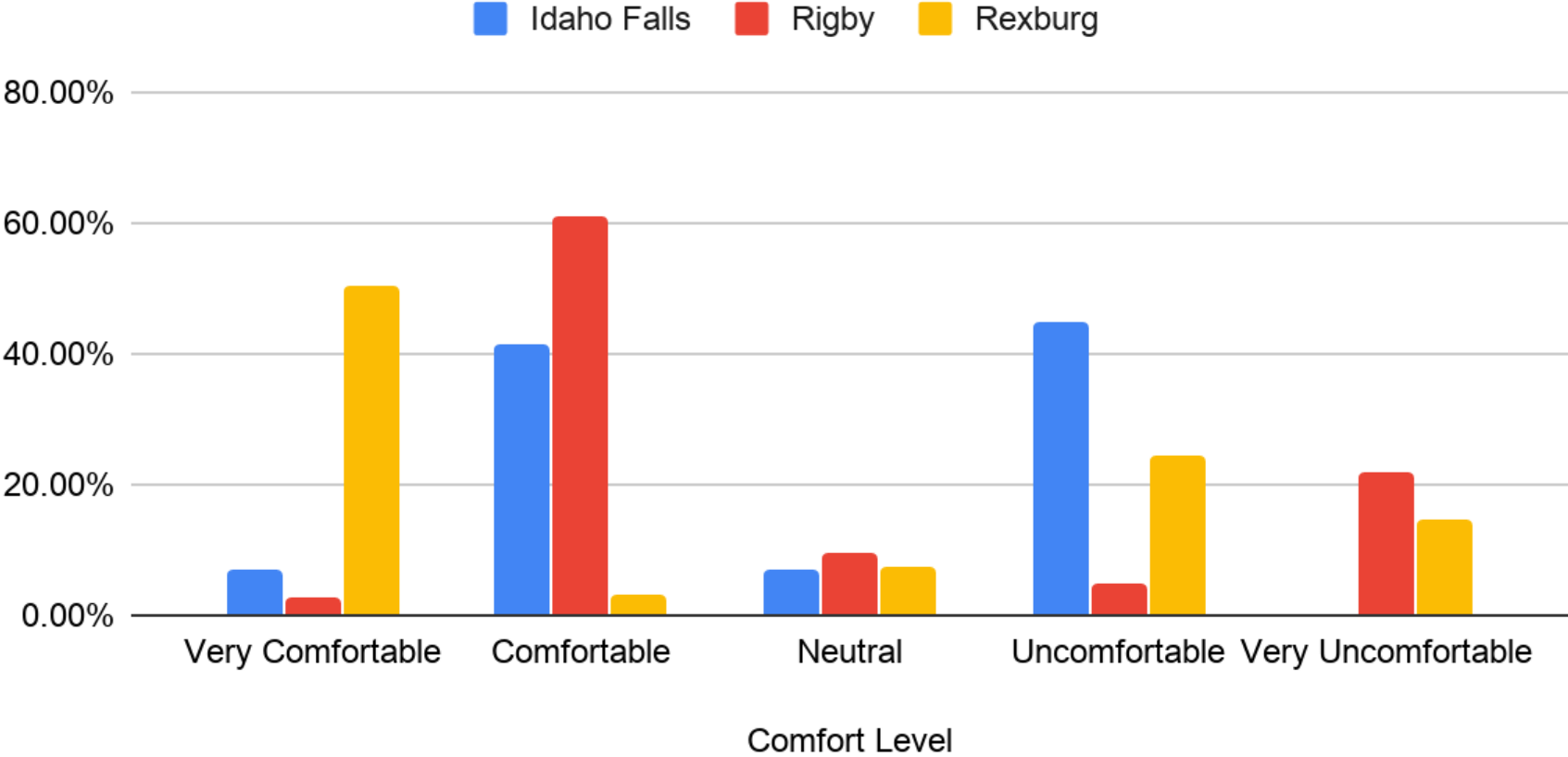


## Social Media Polls

The RBDC is conducting polls with key questions each week. The goal of these polls is to see how households and individuals are being impact by the COVID-19 outbreak. Each week the RBDC will also be conducting interviews with business owners to get qualitative and quantitative data.

# Social Media Poll Comfort Levels

How comfortable do you feel going to the now reopened places of worship during this phase of reopening Idaho?

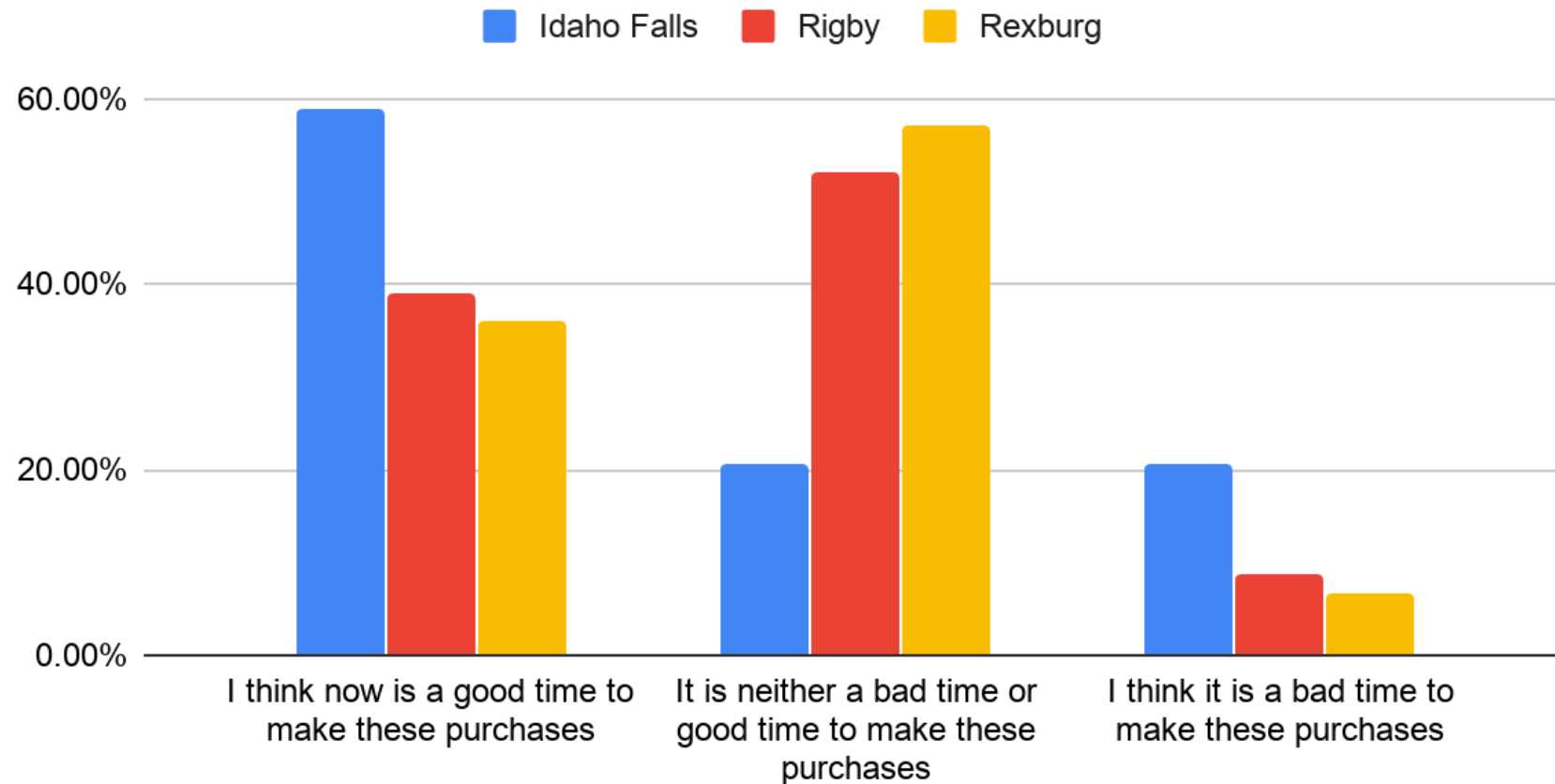


Poll posted in the Facebook Groups : 'Idaho Falls Moms,' 'I<3 life in Rexburg', 'I love Rigby and I'm allowed to talk about it'



# Social Media Poll Consumer Confidence

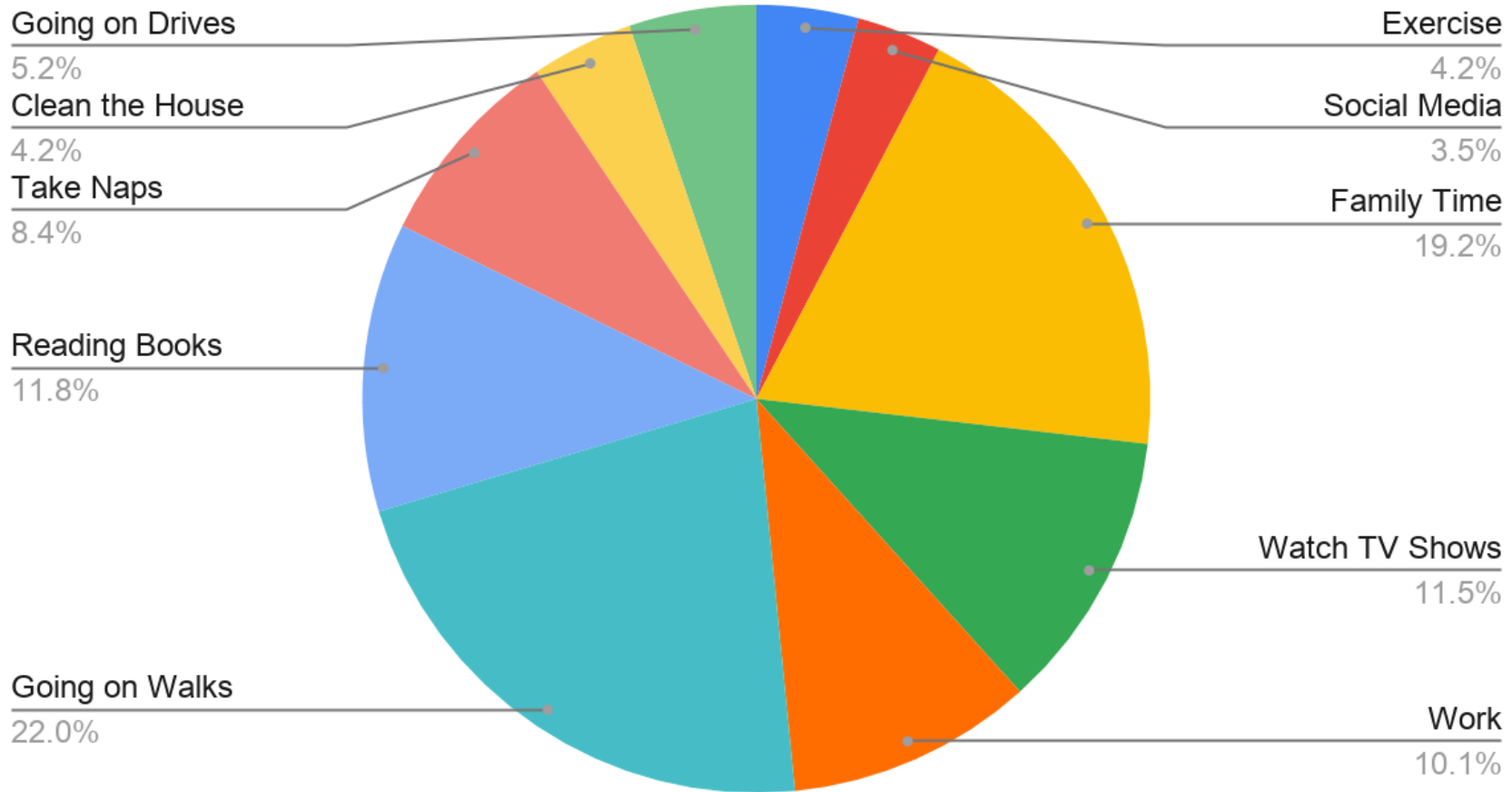
Do you think now is a good time or bad time for people to make major purchases such as furniture, household appliances, electronic devices,



Poll posted in the Facebook Groups : 'Life in Idaho Falls', 'I <3 life in Rexburg', 'I love Rigby and I'm allowed to talk about it'

# Social Media Top Ten Quarantine Activities

What is your favorite activity to do during Quarantine?



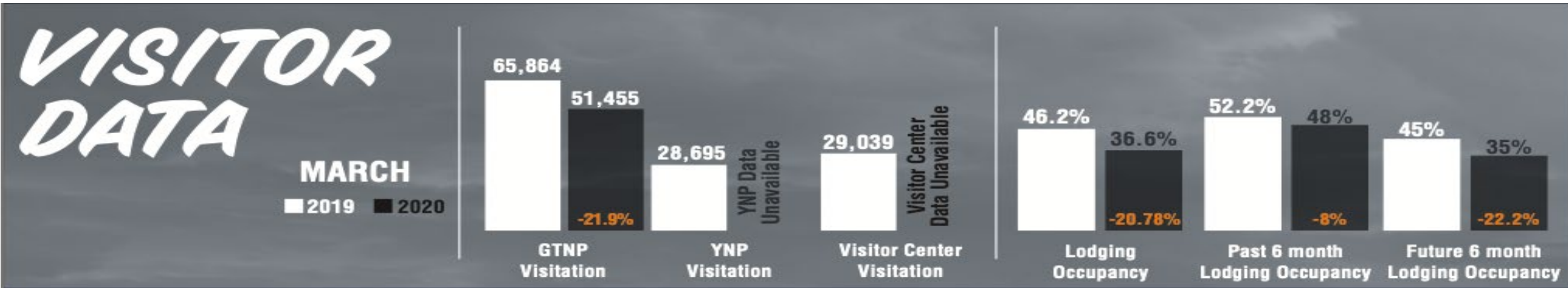
Poll posted in the Facebook Groups : 'Life in Idaho Falls', 'I<3 life in Rexburg', 'I love Rigby and I'm allowed to talk about it'





# Jackson Hole, WY

## Jackson Hole, Wyoming - March 2020



\*\* March 30,2020: Occupancy changed from last years' 66.8%, to occupancy this year of 38.1%

[https://www.jacksonholechamber.com/economic\\_insights/](https://www.jacksonholechamber.com/economic_insights/)

\*\* Due to COVID-19 regulations Ski Resort Lodging shut down March 15th vs Normal Ski Season ending April 12th.

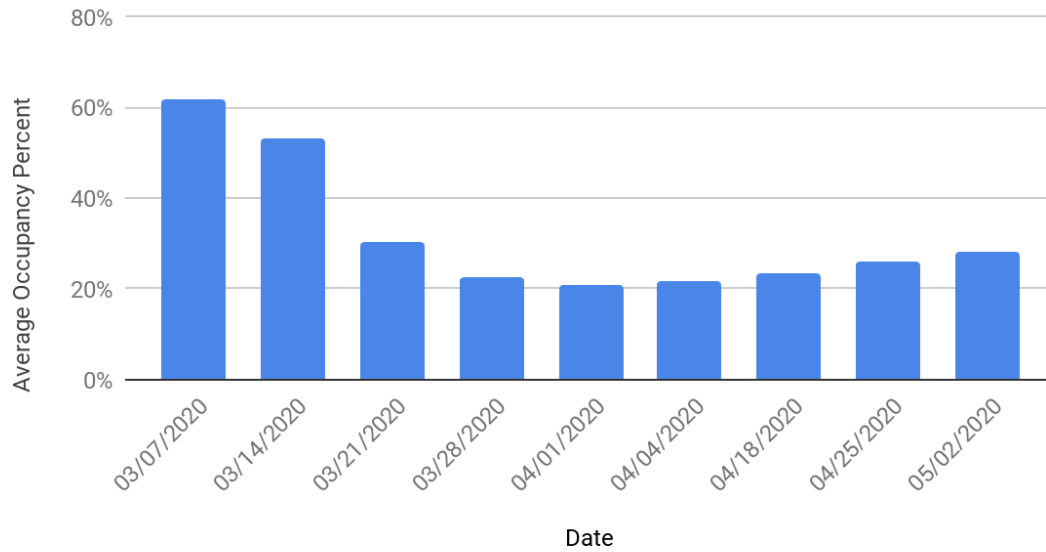
\*\* The YNP (Yellowstone National Park) information is unavailable at this time due to the park being closed.

Visitor Data taken from Jackson Hole, WY Chamber of Commerce:

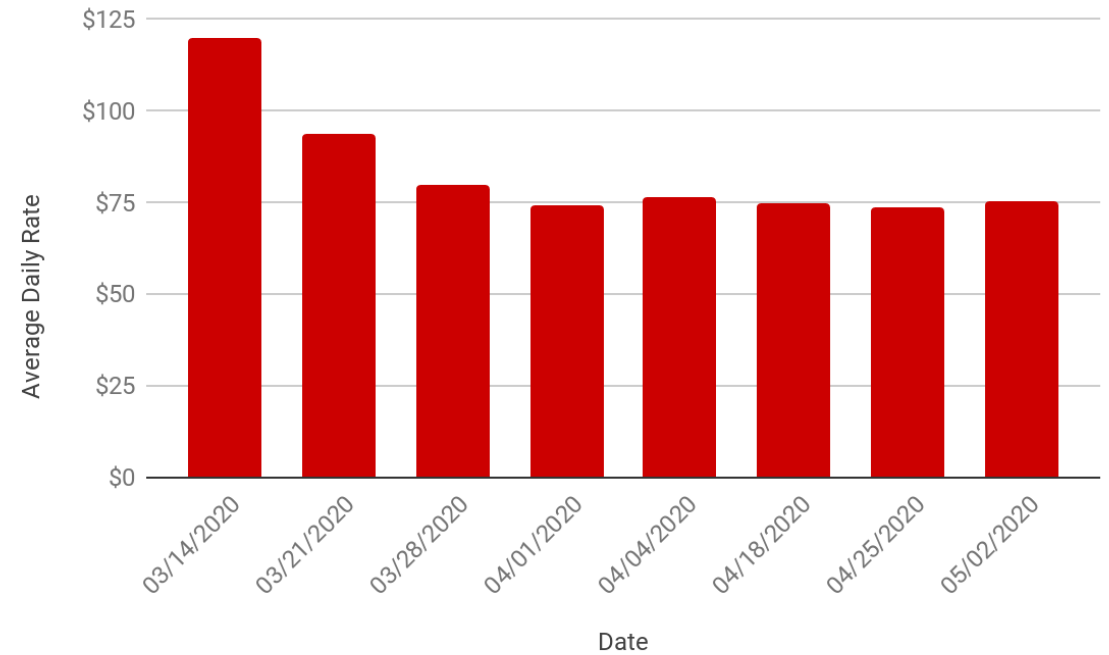
[http://jhchamber.s3.amazonaws.com/CMS/2108/march\\_economic\\_dashboard\\_42820.pdf](http://jhchamber.s3.amazonaws.com/CMS/2108/march_economic_dashboard_42820.pdf)

# US Hotel Weekly Data

## US Hotel Weekly Occupancy Data



## US Hotel Weekly Daily Rate



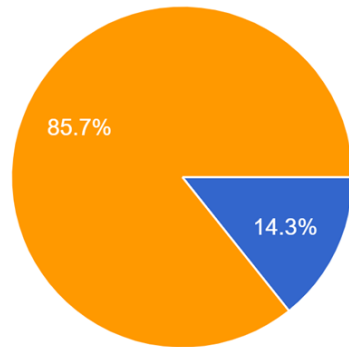
Graphs were taken from the following report:

[http://www.hotelnewsnow.com/Articles/302395/STR\\_-US-hotel-results-for-week-ending-18-April](http://www.hotelnewsnow.com/Articles/302395/STR_-US-hotel-results-for-week-ending-18-April)

# Dental Industry Analysis

Has the number of emergency visits changed during the pandemic?

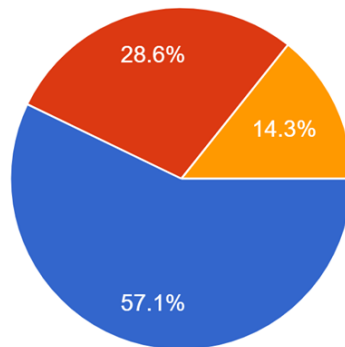
7 responses



- Yes, we have more emergency appointments than usual
- Yes, we have less emergency visits than usual
- No, we have about the same number of emergency appointments

What does your company expect after you reopen completely?

7 responses

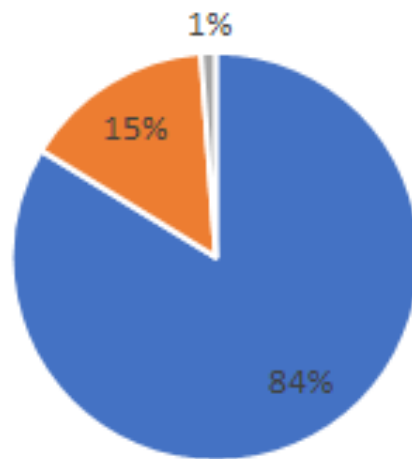


- There will be a large influx of appointments
- The number of appointments will be normal
- There will be a less than normal amount of appointments

- A small percentage of dental offices have experienced an influx of emergency visits during the pandemic.
- When asked what changes were made to accommodate government regulations, most offices replied saying they had better PPE and they scheduled less appointments in order to have fewer people in the building.
- Over 80% of offices who responded to the survey either have a plan prepared for when they completely reopen or are currently developing one.
- A small percentage of employers chose to stop compensation to employees

# Dental Industry Analysis

Facebook Poll: How do you feel about visiting the dentist during the pandemic?

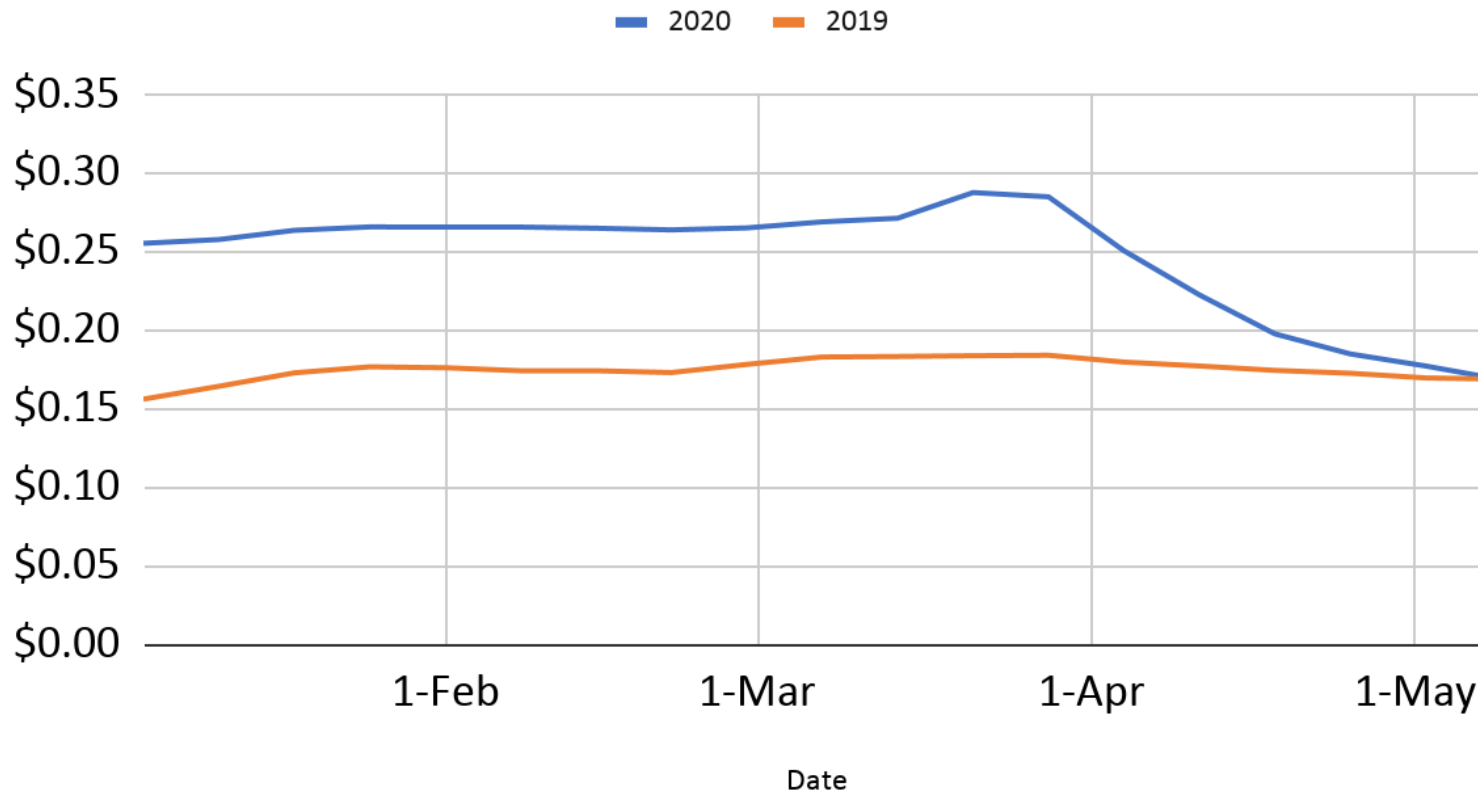


■ I feel comfortable ■ I would only go if needed ■ I don't feel comfortable going

- When regular dentist visitors were asked if they felt comfortable going to the dentist during the pandemic, the overwhelming majority said they do. This is good news for dental offices.

# Agricultural Price Analysis

Average Potato Price Received Per Pound (Idaho Falls)

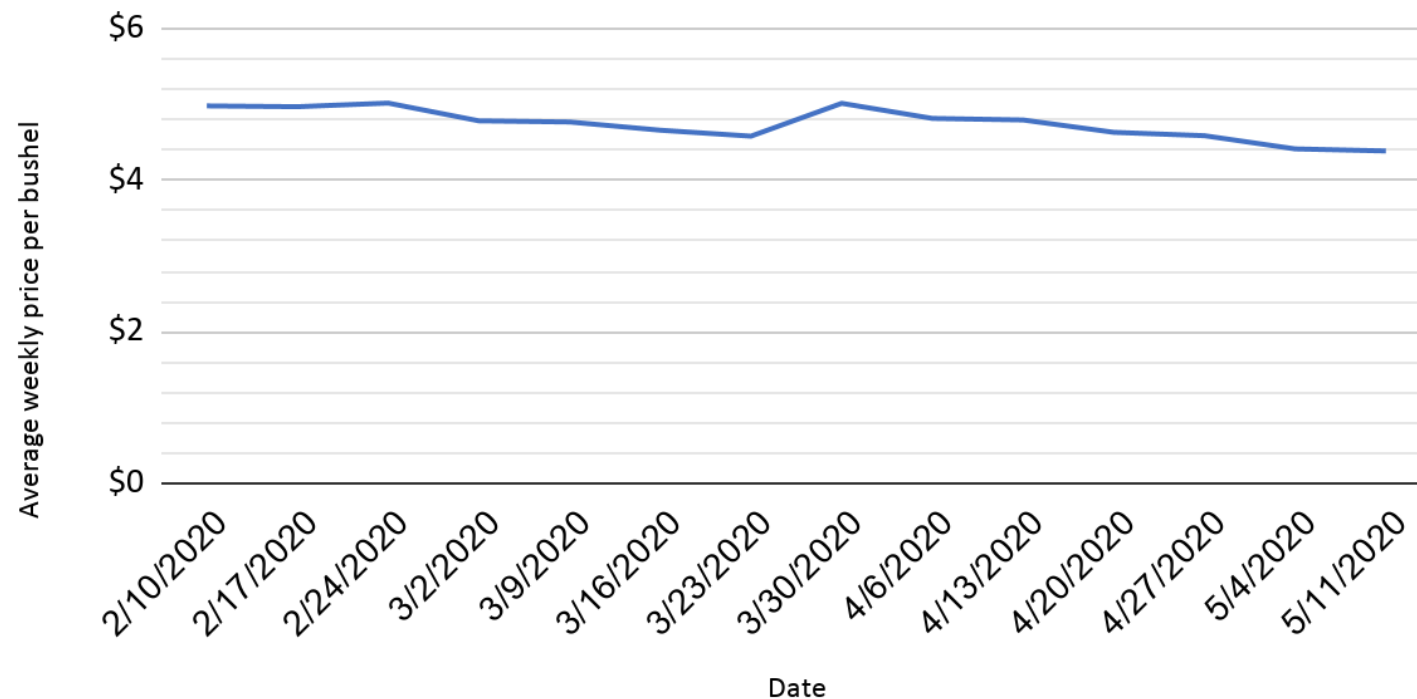


- Since the start of January through this current week potato prices have dropped 33.4%.
- Since the stay at home order Potato prices have dropped 40.9%.
- This Week potato prices have fallen 4%.

Potato prices were found at USDA-Department of Agriculture

# Agricultural Price Analysis

Average Wheat Price Received by Farmers Per Bushel (Blackfoot Idaho)



- Since the start of February wheat prices have fallen 11.9%.
- Since the stay at home order wheat prices have fallen 4.3%.
- This past week wheat prices have remained relatively stable.

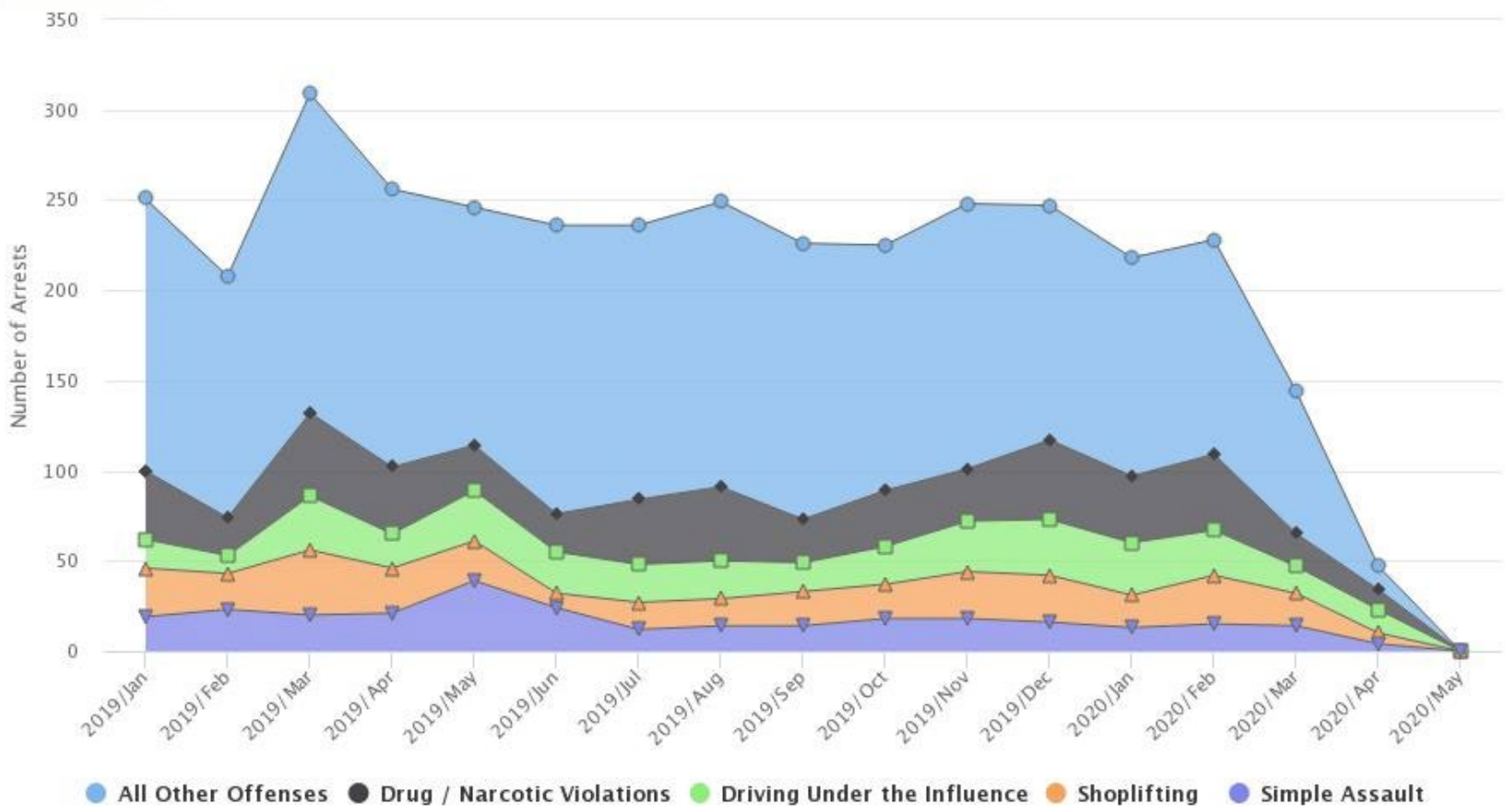
Prices were given from the Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

# Bonneville Criminal Activity and Arrests



**Arrest Trends Report**  
 Beginning Date: 01/01/2019      Ending Date: 05/31/2020

County: Bonneville County  
 Offense: Top 5 Offenses



Number of arrests for the top 5 most common offenses in the state.

\*Arrest Trends Report has not been updated for May 2020

# Jefferson Criminal Activity and Arrests

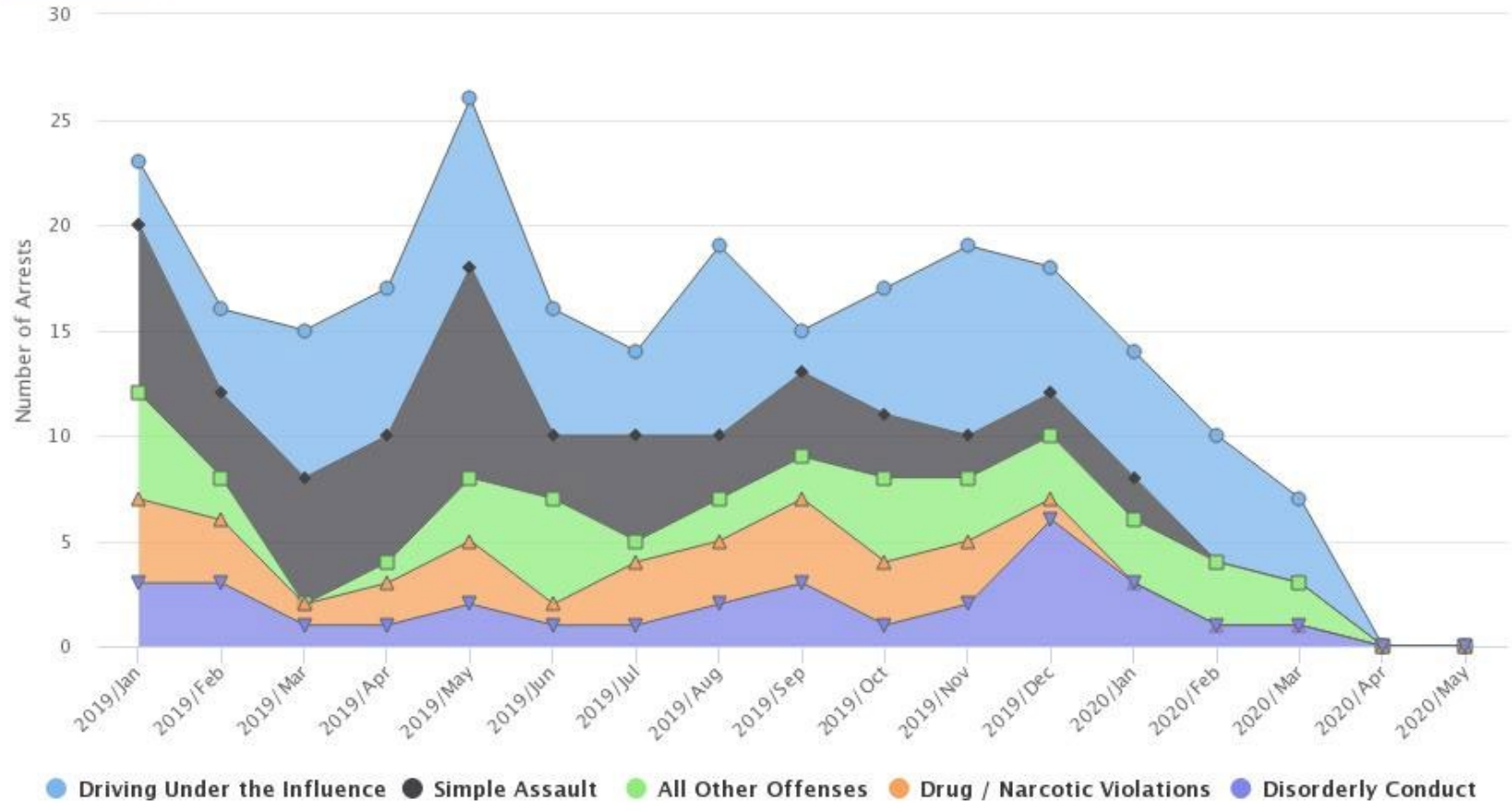


## Arrest Trends Report

Beginning Date: 01/01/2019

Ending Date: 05/31/2020

County: Jefferson County  
Offense: Top 5 Offenses



Number of arrests for the top 5 most common offenses in the state.

\*Arrest Trends Report has not been updated for April and May 2020





# Madison Criminal Activity and Arrests

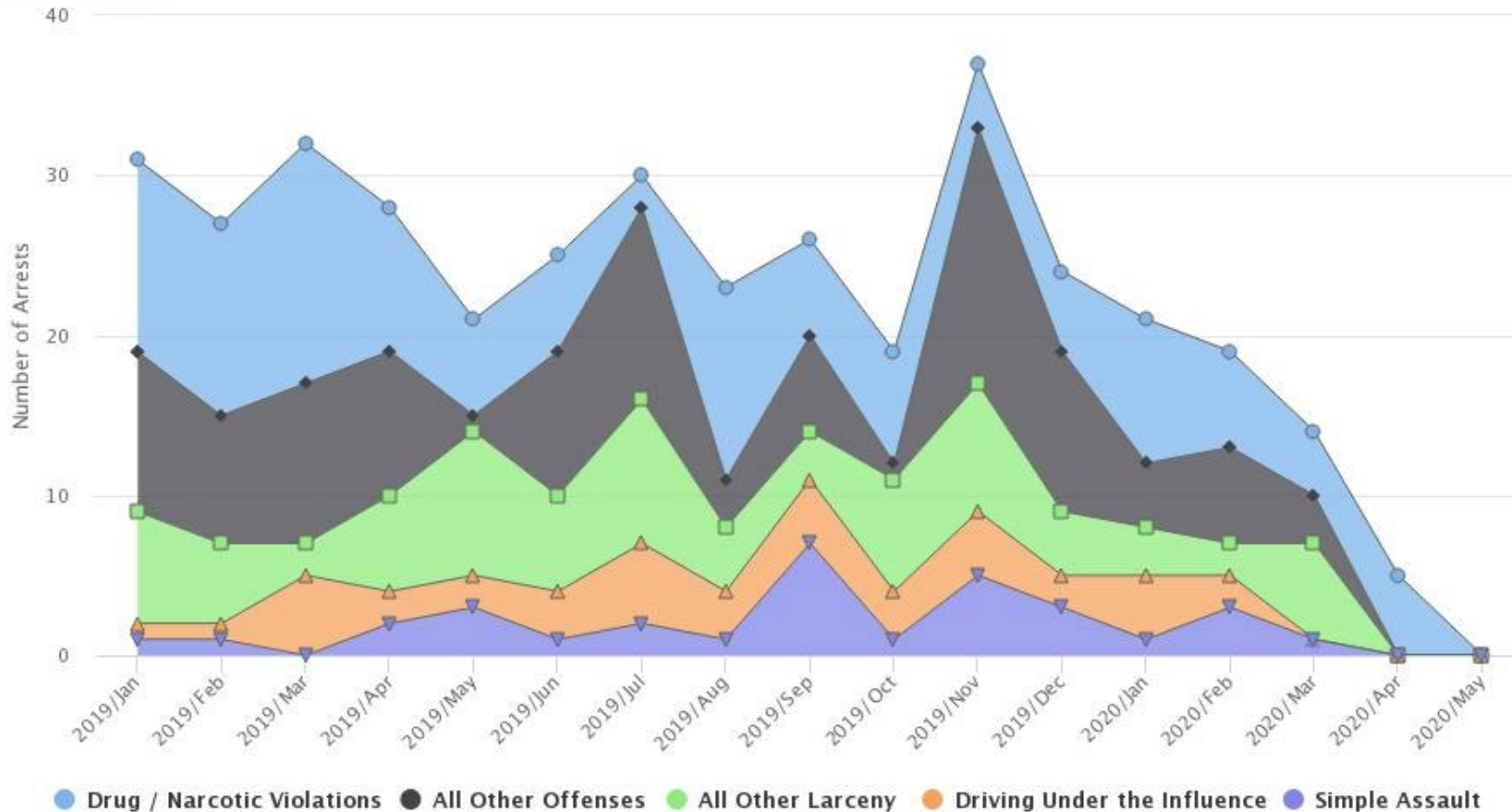


## Arrest Trends Report

Beginning Date: 01/01/2019

Ending Date: 05/31/2020

County: Madison County  
Offense: Top 5 Offenses

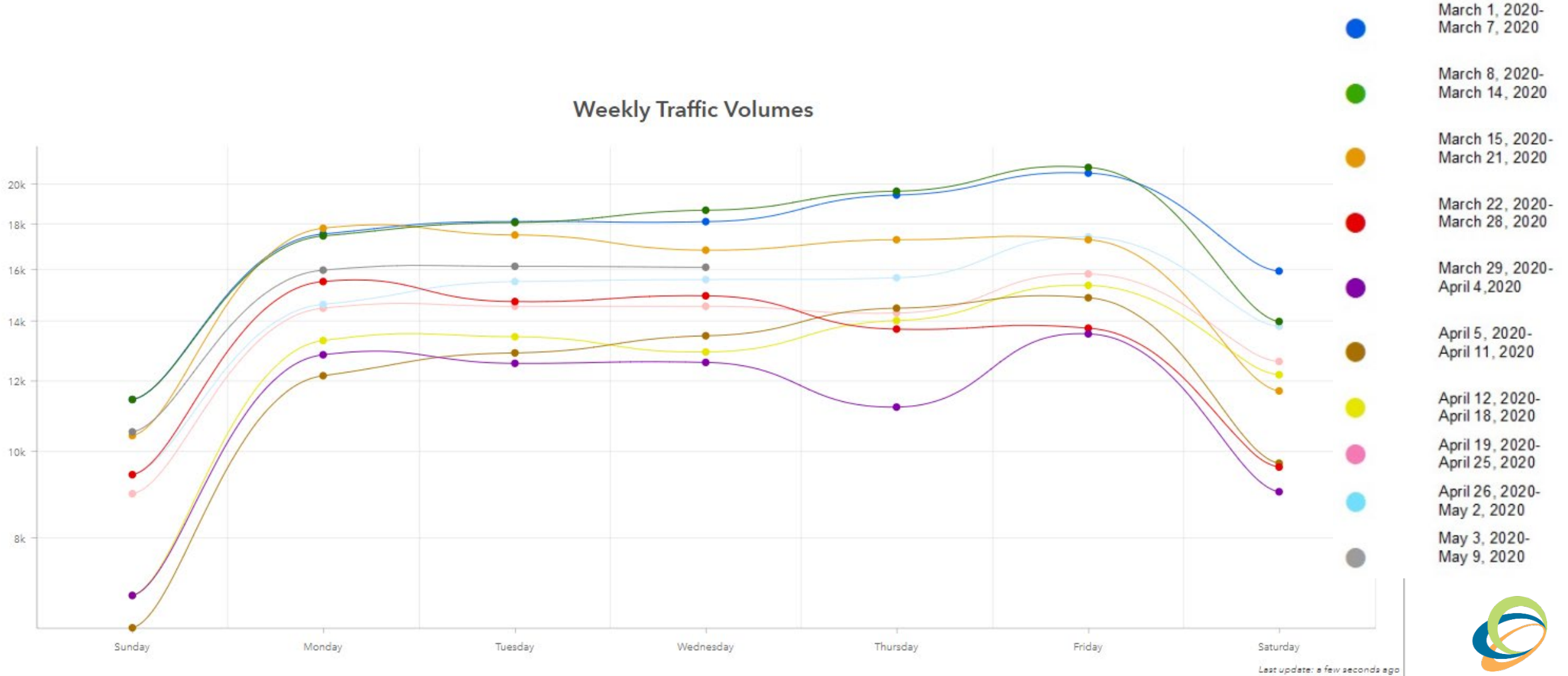


Number of arrests for the top 5 most common offenses in the state.

\*Arrest Trends Report has not been updated for May 2020

# Traffic Volumes - Bonneville

## Weekly Traffic Volumes

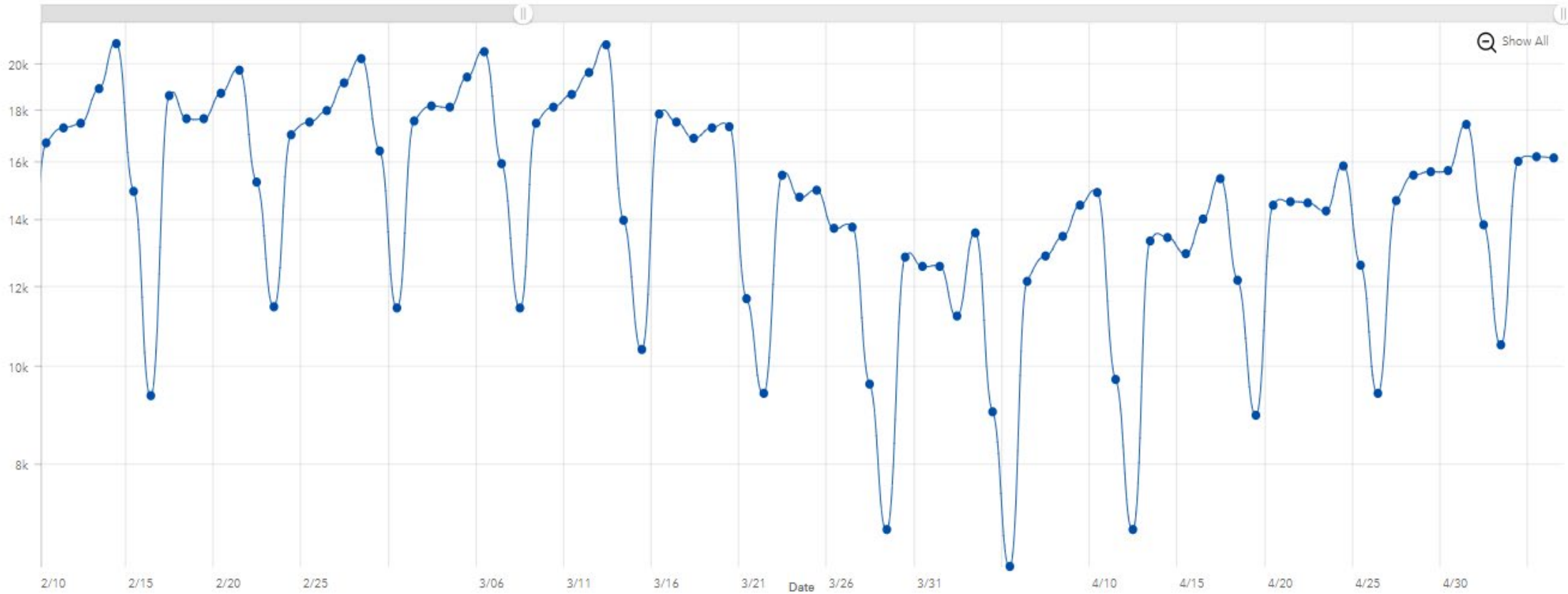


Last update: a few seconds ago

# Traffic Volumes - Bonneville

Average Daily Volume from February 10th 2020 to May 9th 2020

### Average Daily Traffic Volumes for 2020

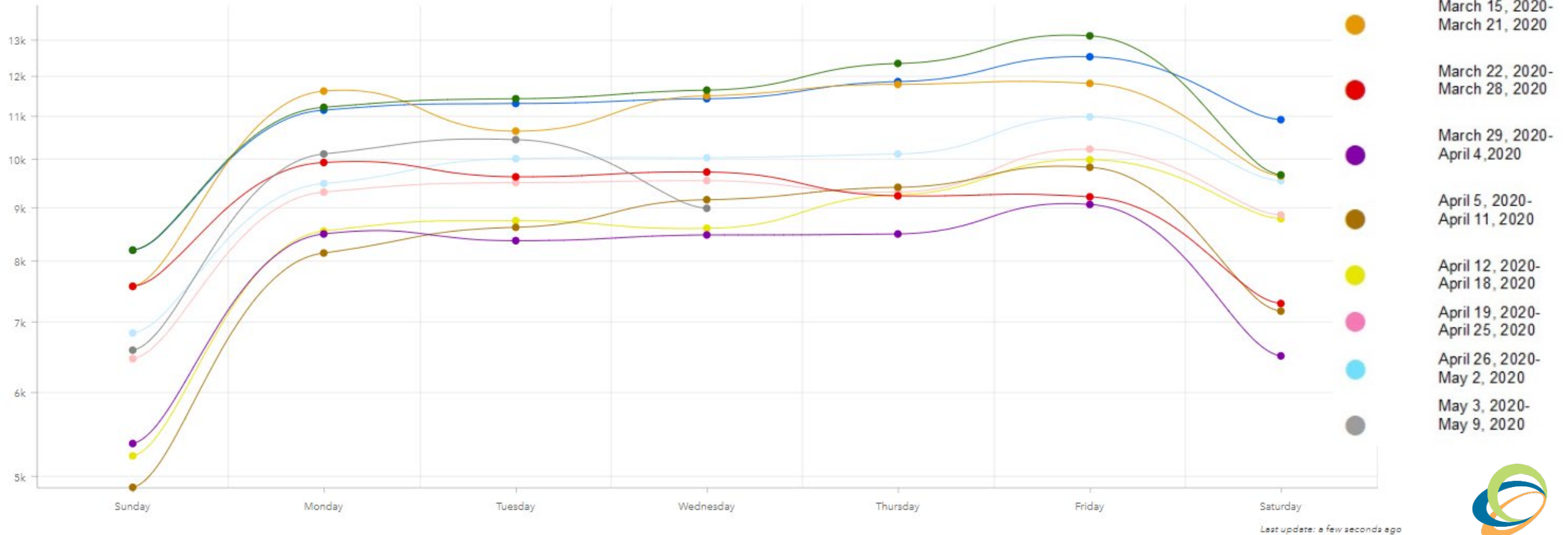


Last update: 2 minutes ago



# Traffic Volumes - Jefferson

## Weekly Traffic Volumes

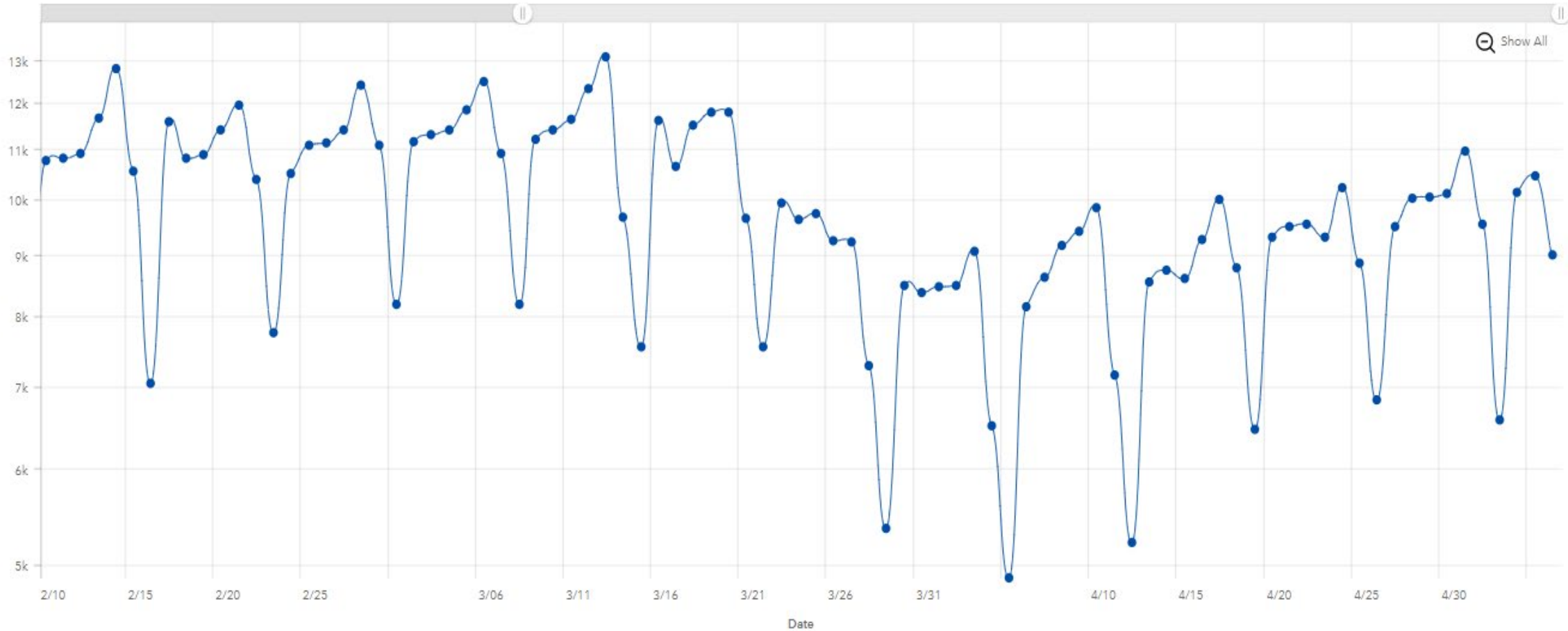


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# Traffic Volumes - Jefferson

Average Daily Volume from February 10th 2020 to May 9th 2020

### Average Daily Traffic Volumes for 2020



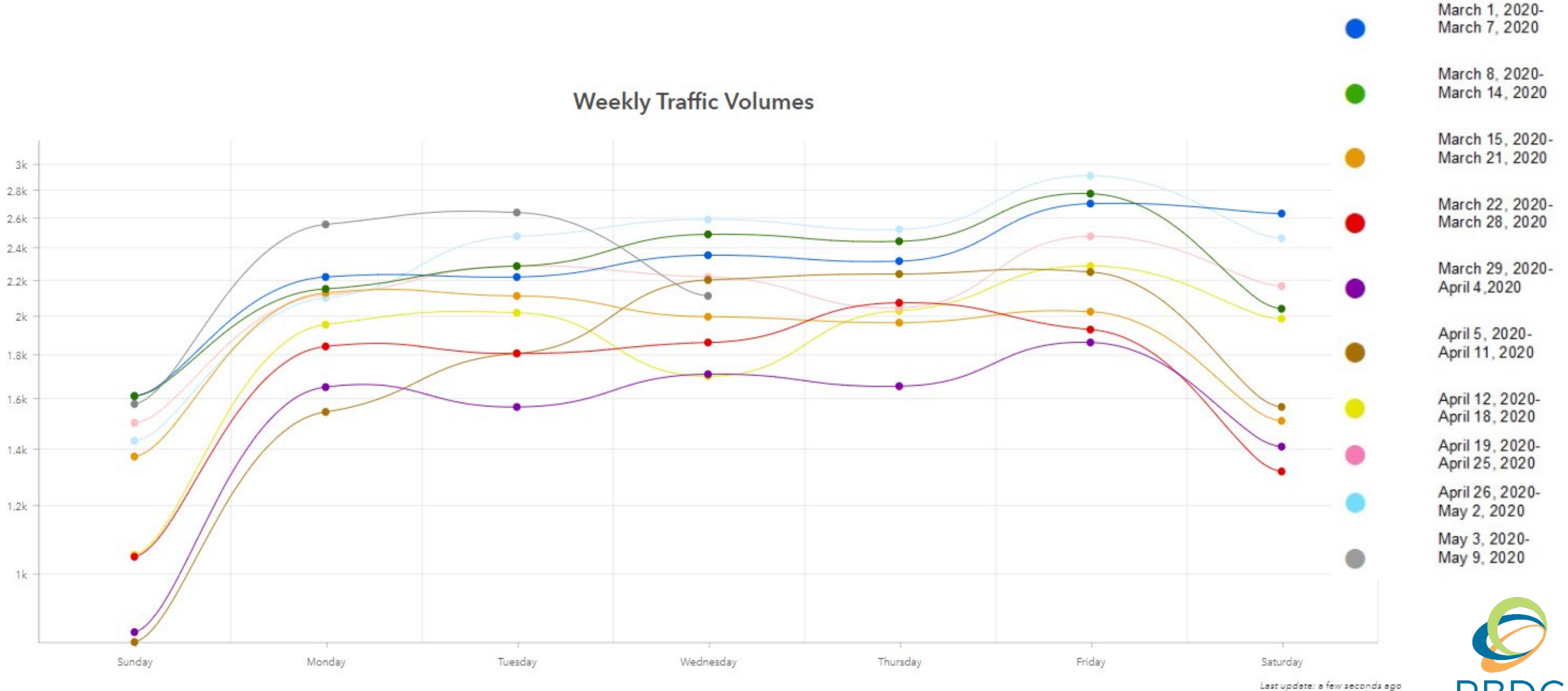
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RBDC

# Traffic Volumes - Madison

## Weekly Traffic Volumes

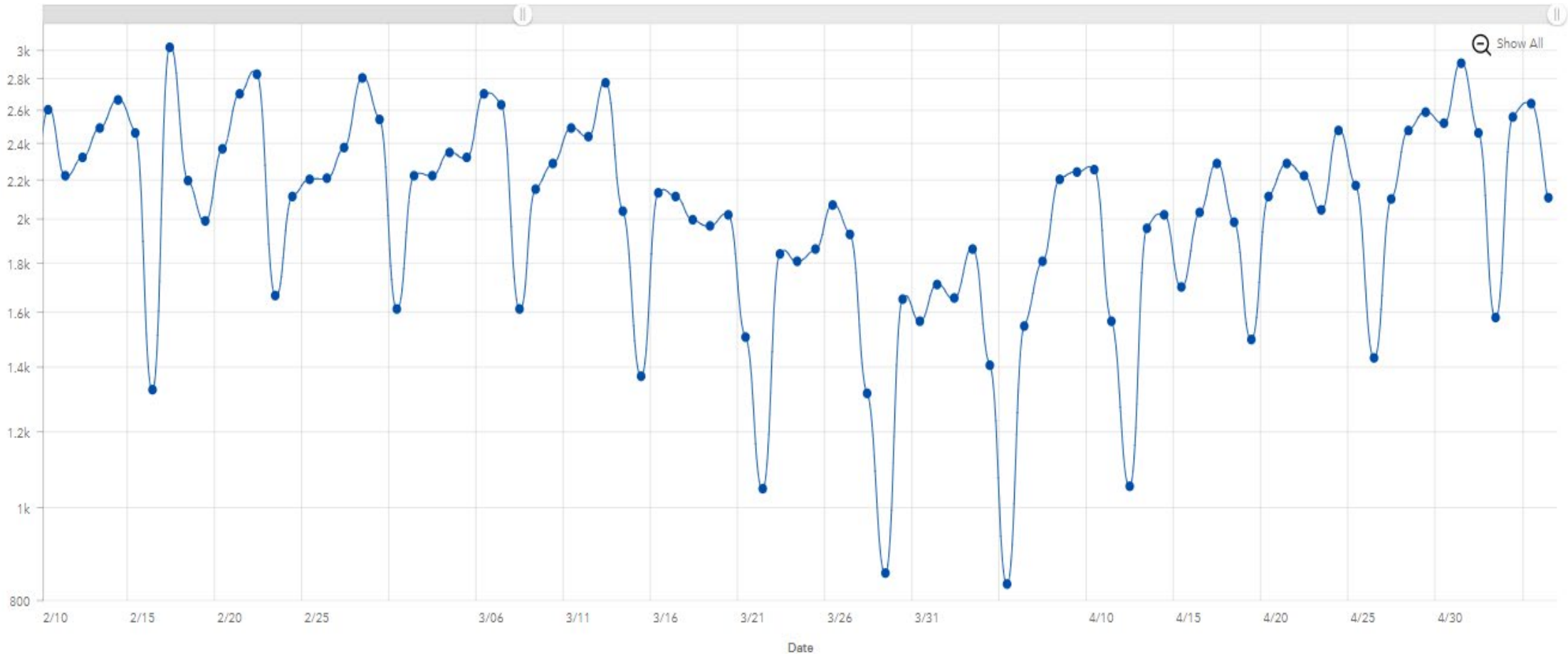


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# Traffic Volumes - Madison

Average Daily Volume from February 10th 2020 to May 9th 2020

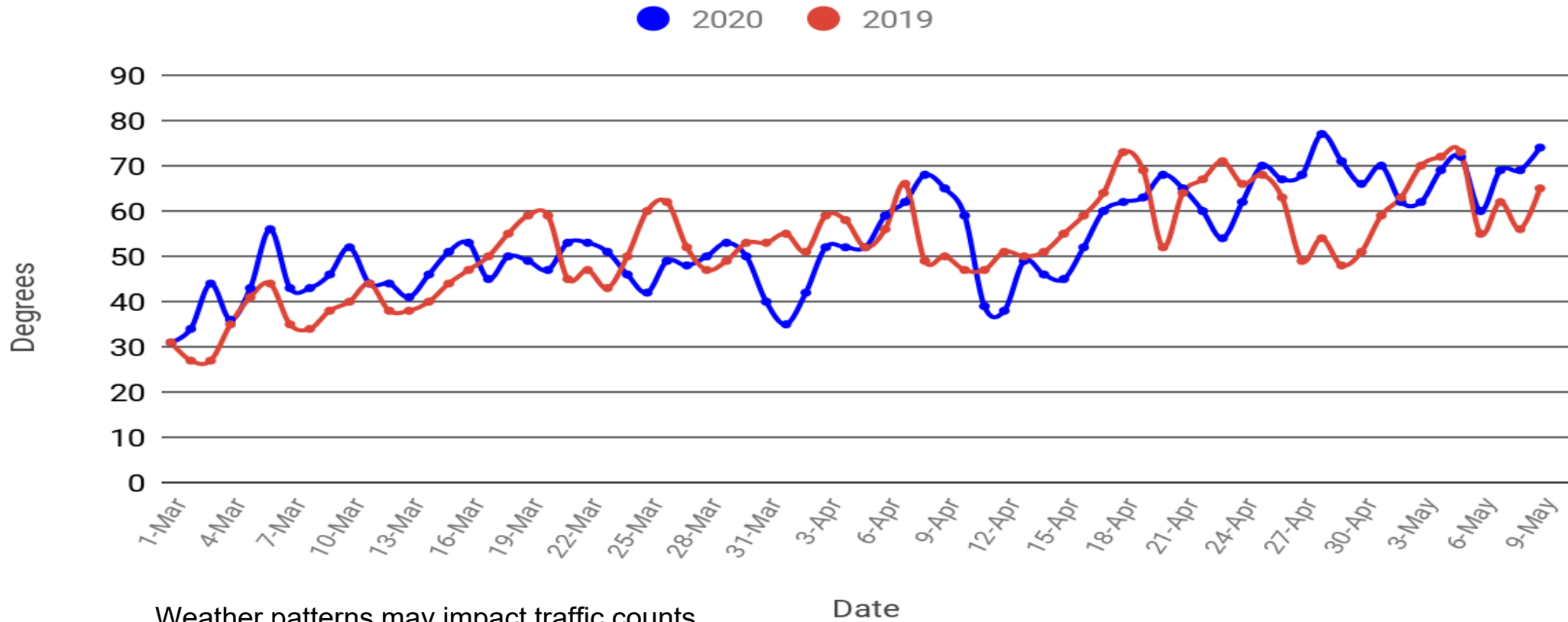
## Average Daily Traffic Volumes for 2020



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# Idaho Falls Weather

## Idaho Falls



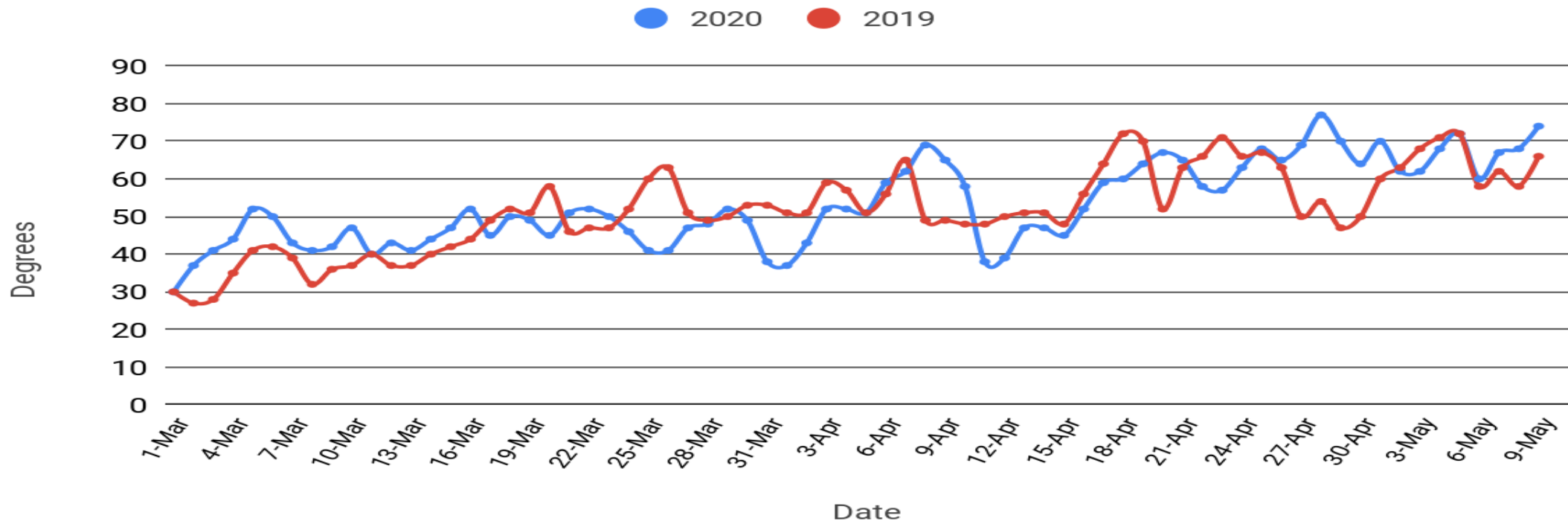
Weather patterns may impact traffic counts.

<https://www.accuweather.com/en/us/idaho-falls/83404/may-weather/328732?year=2019>



# Rexburg Weather

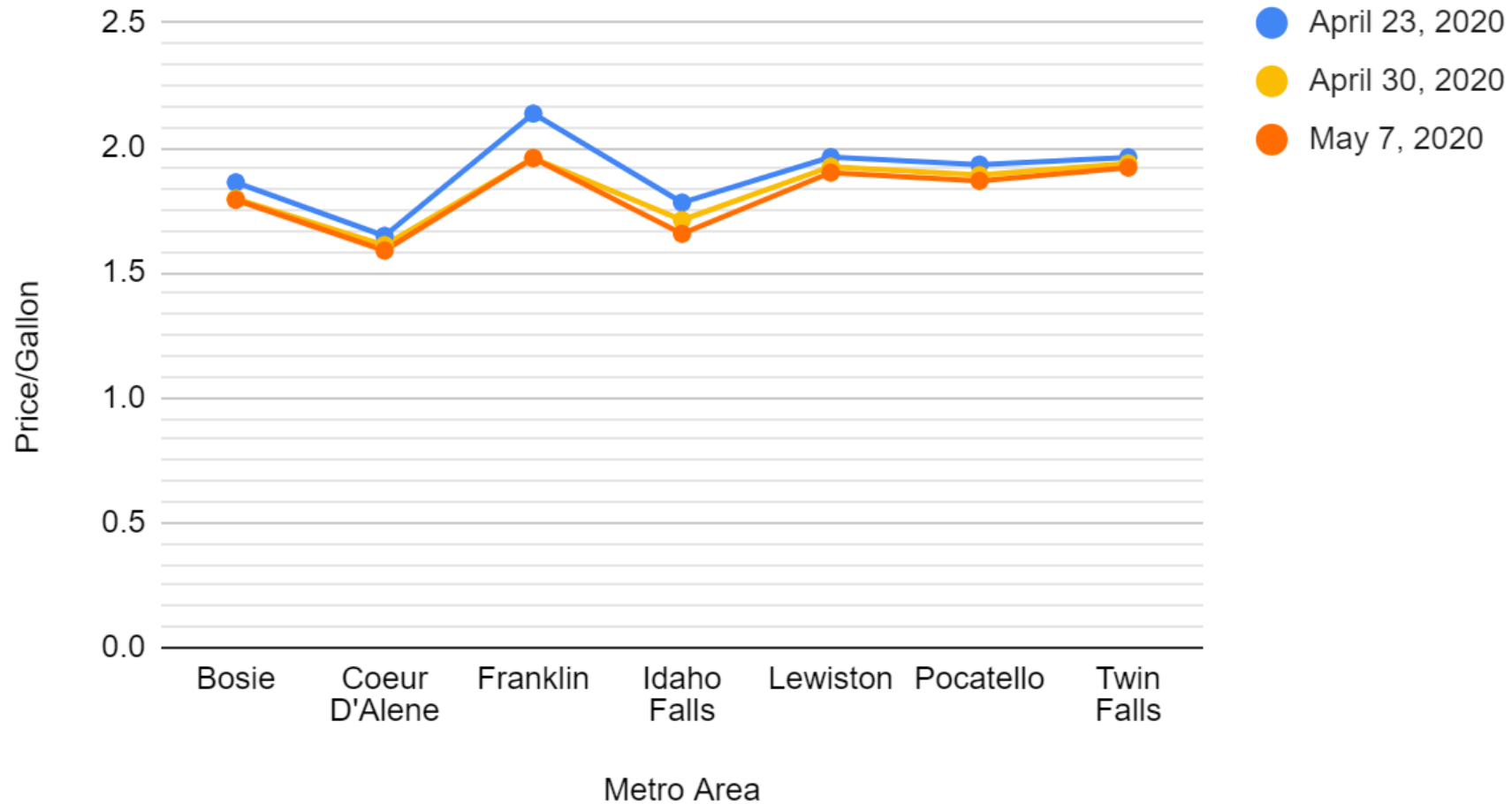
## Rexburg



<https://www.accuweather.com/en/us/idaho-falls/83404/may-weather/328732?year=2019>

# Idaho Metro Gasoline Prices

## Idaho Metro Areas Gasoline Prices



# Idaho Metro Gasoline Prices

## Idaho Metro Areas Gasoline Price Averages

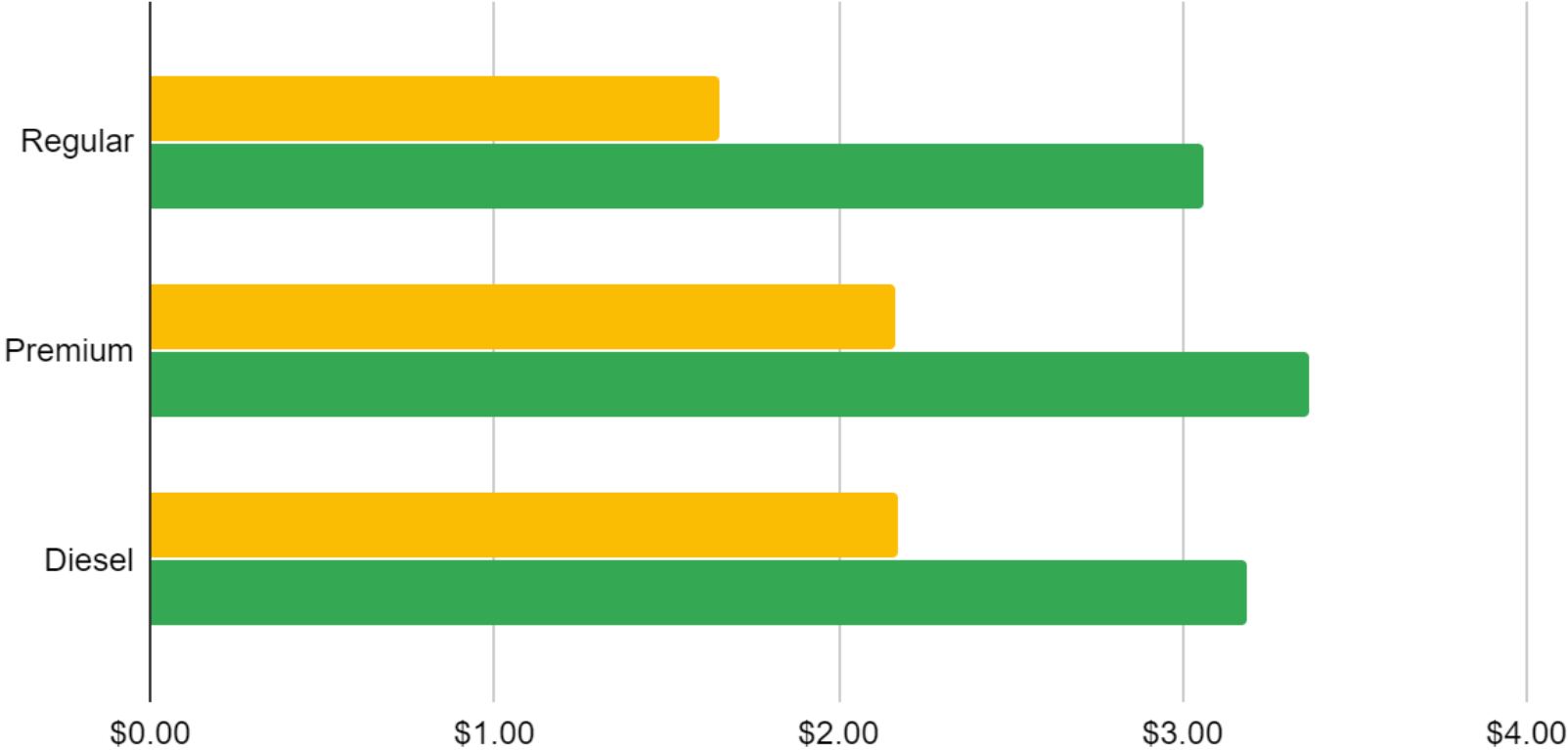
	Bosie			Idaho Falls			Pocatello			Twin Falls		
	Regular	Premium	Diesel	Regular	Premium	Diesel	Regular	Premium	Diesel	Regular	Premium	Diesel
May 7, 2020	\$1.79	\$2.13	\$2.45	\$1.66	\$2.17	\$2.17	\$1.87	\$2.23	\$2.63	\$1.92	\$2.24	\$2.49
May 7, 2019	\$3.19	\$3.43	\$3.28	\$3.06	\$3.37	\$3.19	\$3.09	\$3.33	\$3.23	\$3.16	\$3.40	\$3.20

AAA. 2020. Gas Prices. May 7. Accessed May 7, 2020. <https://gasprices.aaa.com/?state=ID>.

# Idaho Falls Gasoline Price

## Idaho Falls Gasoline Price Year Comparison

May 7, 2020    May 7, 2019



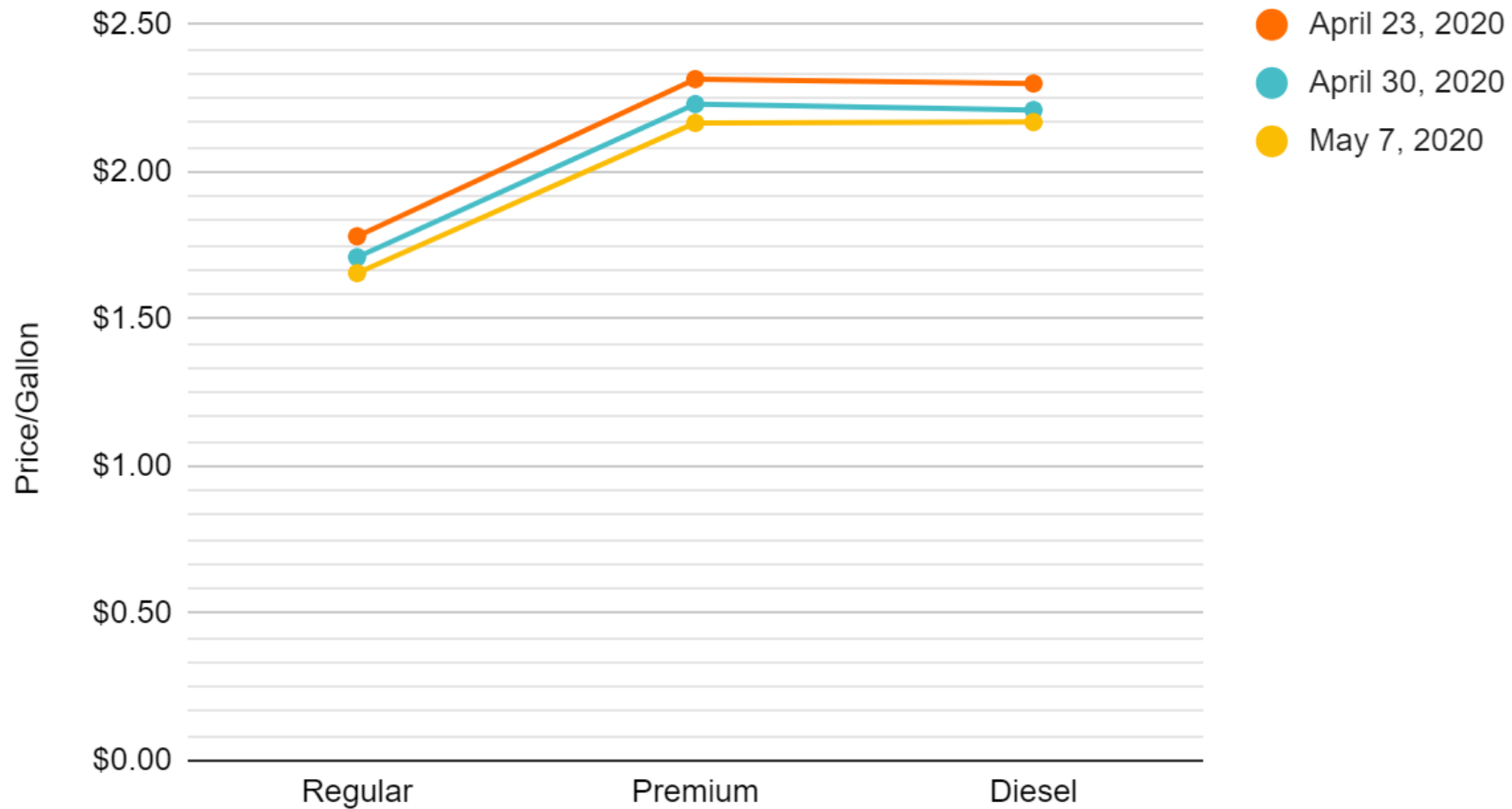
Idaho Falls' average metro area gasoline price with previous year comparison

AAA. 2020. Gas Prices. May 7. Accessed May 7, 2020. <https://gasprices.aaa.com/?state=ID>.



# Idaho Falls Gasoline Prices

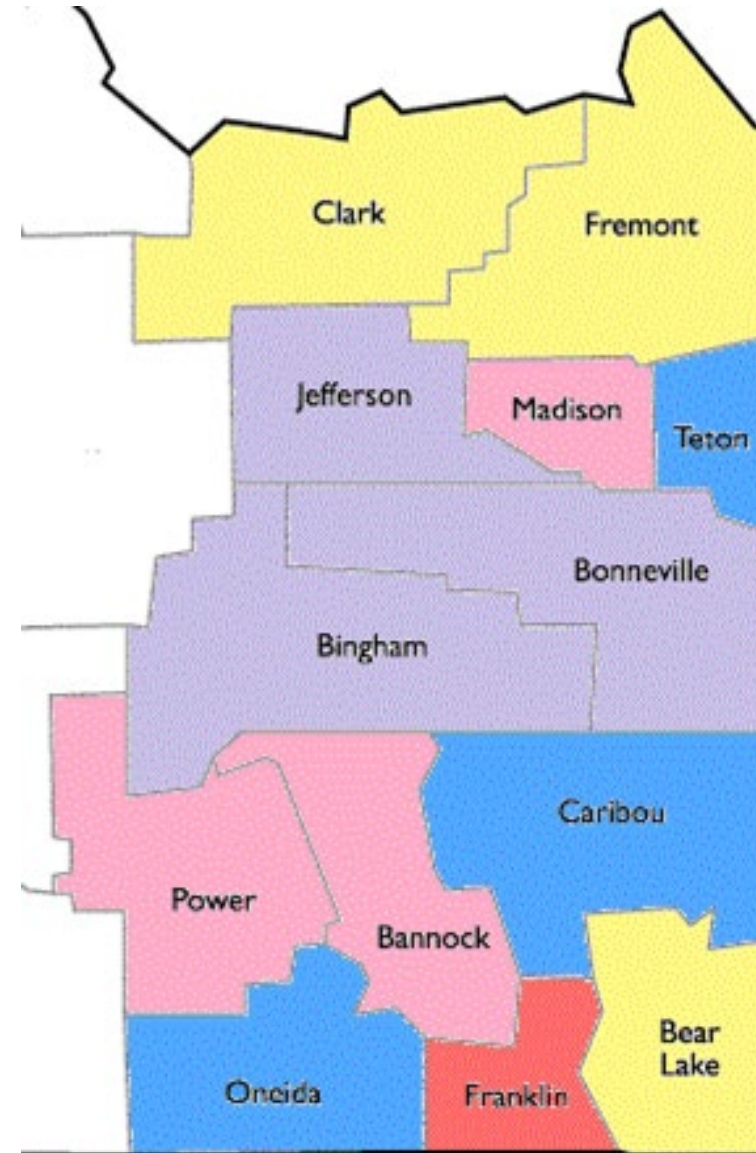
## Idaho Falls Gasoline Prices



# Idaho Counties Gasoline Prices

## Average Regular Gasoline Price

	\$1.80 to \$1.60
	\$1.87 to \$1.79
	\$1.94 to \$1.88
	\$1.97 to \$1.95
	\$2.35 to \$1.98

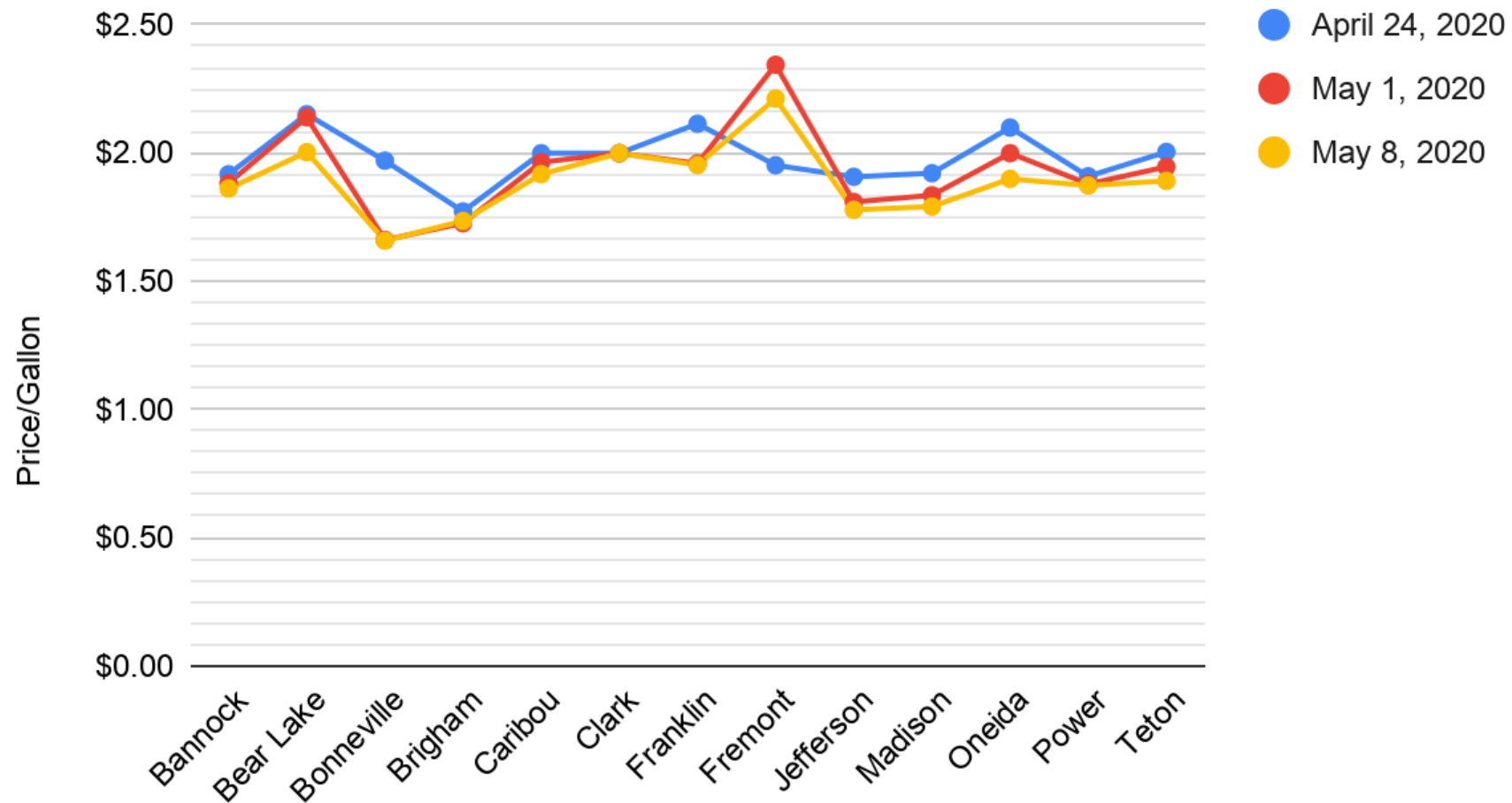


AAA. 2020. Gas Prices. May 9. Accessed May 9, 2020. <https://gasprices.aaa.com/?state=ID>.

Original image: Moen, J. (2016, July 12). Idaho County Map. Retrieved from World Atlas: <https://www.worldatlas.com/webimage/countrys/namerica/usstates/counties/idcountymap.htm>

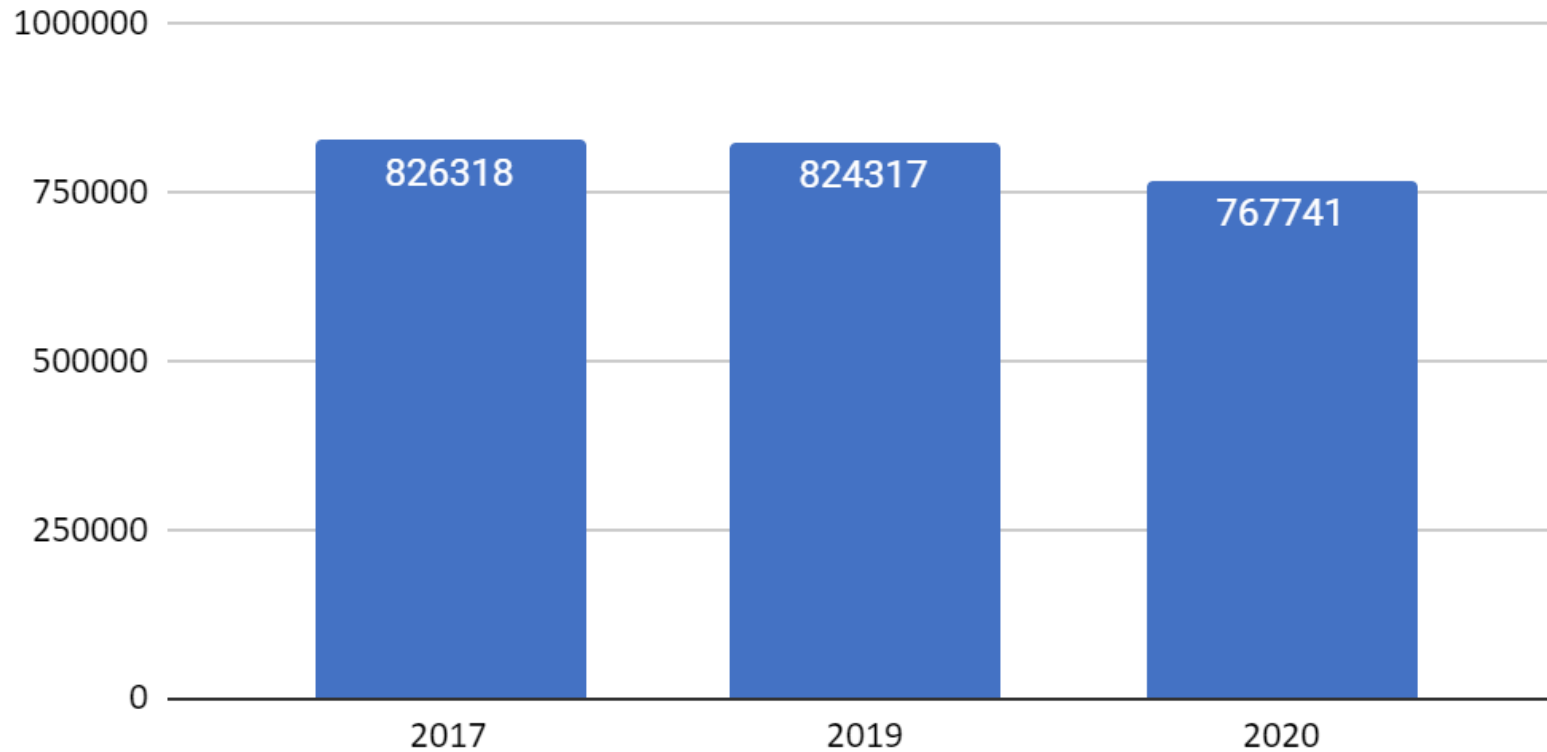
# Idaho Counties Gasoline Prices

## Regular Gasoline Prices in East Idaho Counties



# PacifiCorp East Electricity Demand

## PacifiCorp East Weekly Electricity Demand (MWh) May 1-May 7



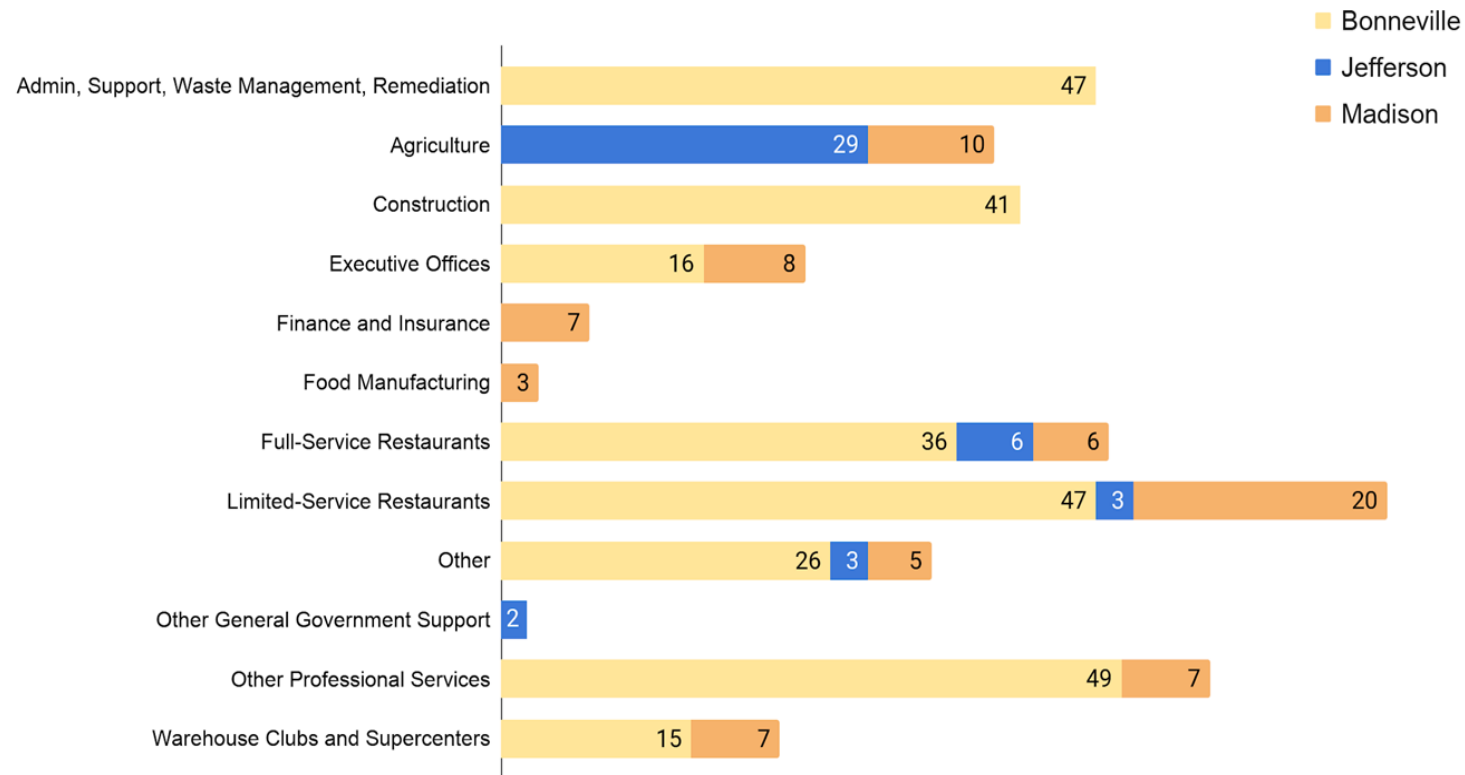
Source: U.S. Energy Information Administrator  
<https://www.eia.gov/beta/electricity/gridmonitor/expanded-view/custom/pending/LatestHourlyUSElectricityDemand-11/edit>



# Job Openings Overview

## Job Openings by Industry

As of May 8, 2020

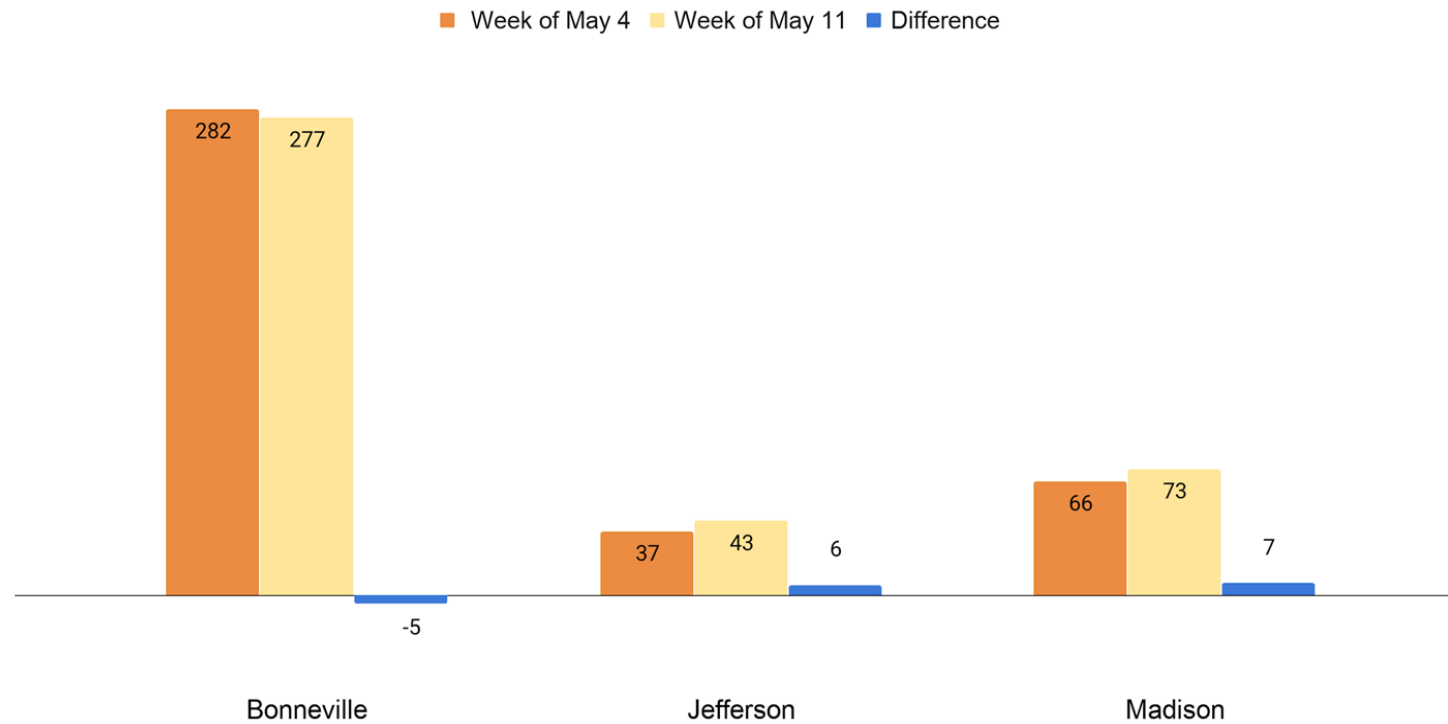


Source: [Idaho Department of Labor](#)

# Job Openings Overview

## Job Openings Comparison by County

As of May 8, 2020

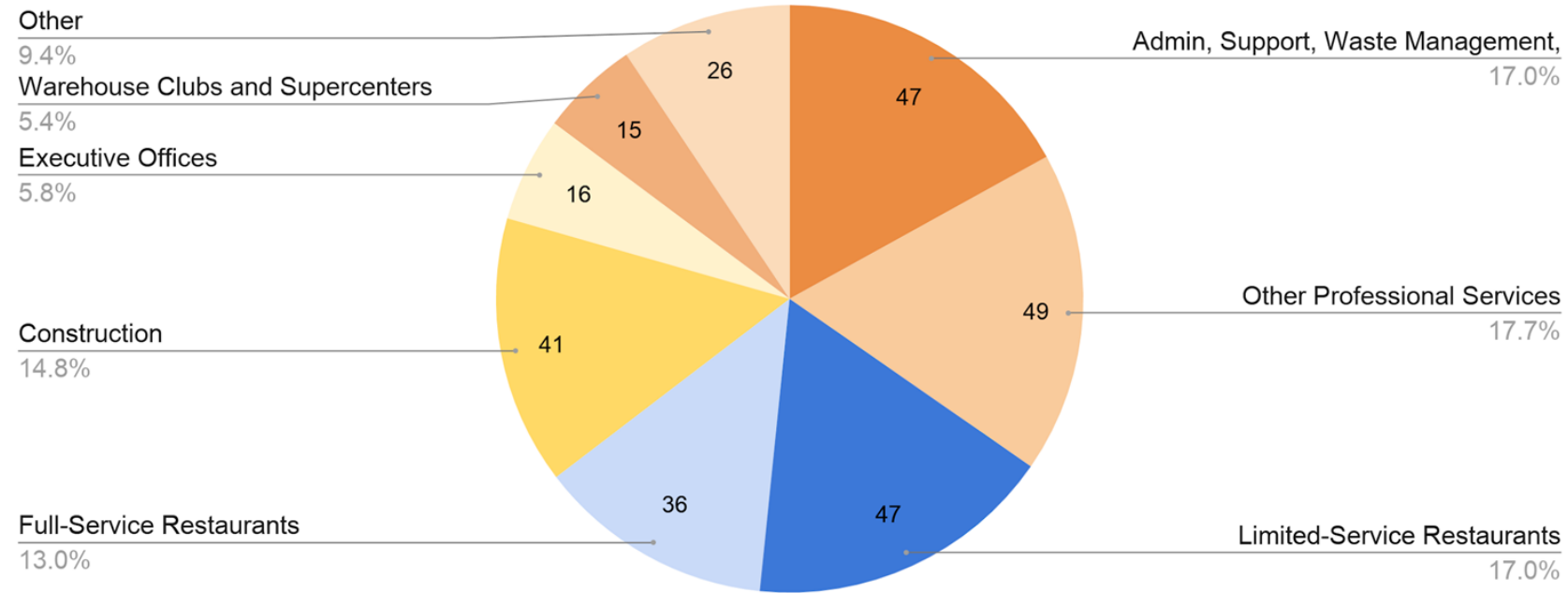


Source: [Idaho Department of Labor](#)

# Job Openings - Bonneville County

## Bonneville County Job Openings

As of May 8, 2020



Source: [Idaho Department of Labor](#)

# Job Openings - Bonneville County

## Latest Job Openings by Employer:

- Western Transport Inc.
- [Idaho National Laboratory](#)
- AdvancedHomeServices
- Easter Seals Goodwill Northern Rocky Mountain
- DownEast Outfitters
- [Melaleuca](#)
- Kelly Services
- Washington Federal
- Peak Security
- Walgreens\*\*\*
- BP Americas, Inc.
- Idaho Division of Human Resources
- Maverick
- Delta Fire Systems, Inc.
- East Idaho Credit Union
- Western States Equipment Company
- [HCA, Hospital Corporation of America](#)
- [Pilot Flying J](#)
- Sportsman's Warehouse
- [Good Samaritan Society](#)
- [Lowe's](#)
- GNC
- Unitek Learning, Inc.
- LifeCare
- Elixir North America
- System One Services
- City of Idaho Falls
- Eastern Idaho Community Action Partnership
- TNG
- [Fluor Idaho, LLC](#)
- Teton Cleaners & Laundry
- Big City Insulation of Idaho Inc
- Enercon Services Inc
- [DC Electric Inc.\\*\\*\\*](#)
- Idaho Department of Labor
- [Knife River Corp Mountain West Division\\*\\*\\*](#)
- BMPC
- Prestige Care, Inc.
- Panda Restaurant Group, Inc.
- Bonneville County
- [Community Council of Idaho](#)
- Intermountain Erectors, Inc.
- Burns Concrete, Inc.
- Novitex
- North Wind Group
- Stinker Stores

\*\*\*COVID-19 Essential Job

Companies listed in [blue](#) have 6 or more job offerings

Source: [Idaho Department of Labor](#)

# Job Openings - Bonneville County

## Older Job Openings:

- [Progrexion](#)
- [Dominos Pizza](#)\*\*\*
- [Olive Garden](#)
- Starbucks Coffee Company
- [Pizza Hut](#)
- Crossmark
- [Walmart](#)
- NTG Groups, LLC
- Staples
- Curtiss-Wright Corporation
- Rush Enterprises
- Natural Grocers
- [Home Depot](#)\*\*\*
- Signature Service
- HealthTrust Workforce Solutions
- Grifols
- Docutech
- [McDonald's](#)
- [Engineering System Solutions](#)
- [Jacobs](#)
- [Buffalo Wild Wings](#)
- Applied Materials
- [CDM Smith](#)
- Papa John's International
- [Sonic Drive-In](#)
- Encompass Home Health\*\*\*
- [AutoZone, Inc.](#)
- HEBCO
- ServiceMaster
- SiteWise Corporation
- ABF Freight System, Inc\*\*\*
- Invenegy Services
- Fresenius Medical Care North
- ManTech
- Massage Envy
- BHI Energy
- USDA
- [H&K Contractors Inc.](#)\*\*\*
- Rotech Healthcare Inc
- Eagle Rock Timber, Inc,
- Sunnyside Automotive
- PAE Aviation and Technical Services LLC
- KM Service Company LLC
- Valley Glass LLC
- XL Hospice, Inc.\*\*\*
- North Wind Portage Inc
- Stewards of Recovery
- System One Services
- Rush Enterprises
- Anheuser Busch
- Wells Fargo
- Dollar Tree
- Love's Travel Stops & Country Stores\*\*\*
- Citizen Schools
- Swift
- Panera Bread
- University of Utah
- Ross Stores, Inc.
- U-Haul
- Sportsman's Warehouse
- Accountable Healthcare Staffing
- Kneaders Bakery & Cafe
- BHI Energy
- Arby's
- BWX Technologies, Inc.
- Techflow Inc
- Bank of America
- East Idaho Credit Union
- Target\*\*\*
- LifeCare
- Albertsons\*\*\*
- Advantage Solutions
- Tradehome Shoes
- Fred Meyer
- Pinnacle Rehab Staffing
- Triple G Excavating
- State Trailer Supply
- MarCom LLC
- Tueller Counseling
- College of Eastern Idaho
- [Granite Construction Inc](#)
- Hukari Ascendant, Inc.
- Idaho Youth Ranch
- International Isotopes Idaho Inc
- Beehive Rehabilitation and Counseling\*\*\*
- Appraisal Precision and Consulting Group, Inc
- American Staffing, Inc.
- T and T Lawn Service\*\*\*
- [Elwood Staffing Services](#)
- Roamer Transport Inc
- C.E. Hawkins & Son, Inc.
- Allegheny Science and Technology
- Tri State Roofing
- Cable One
- Rockwell Care Services
- [TRC Fabrication LLC](#)
- US Census Bureau

\*\*\*COVID-19 Essential Job

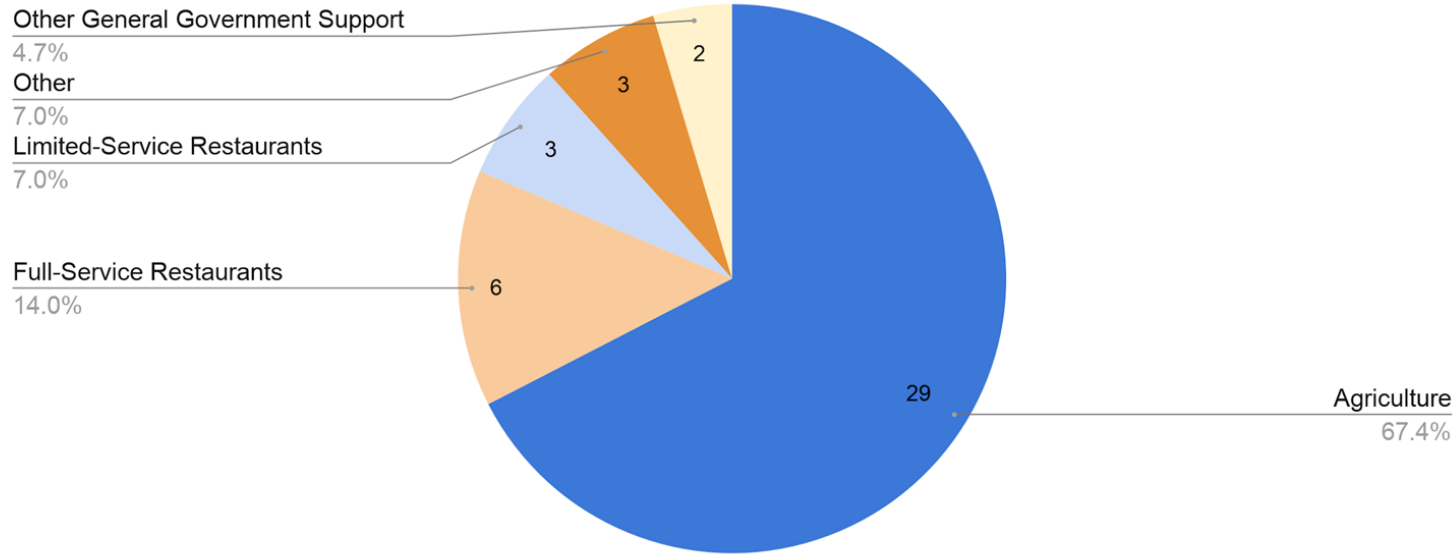
Companies listed in [blue](#) have 6 or more job offerings

Source: [Idaho Department of Labor](#)

# Job Openings - Jefferson County

## Jefferson County Job Openings

As of May 8, 2020



## Latest Job Openings by Employer:

- AdvancedHomeServices
- Nelson Electric LLC\*\*\*

## Older Job Openings:

- Dollar Tree
- Pizza Hut
- Dominos Pizza\*\*\*
- Nelson Electric LLC
- Runaway Inc
- Alvarez Trucking LLC
- Tueller Counseling
- H&E Construction
- Distilled Resources Inc.
- Justin Price Farms, LLC
- US Census Bureau

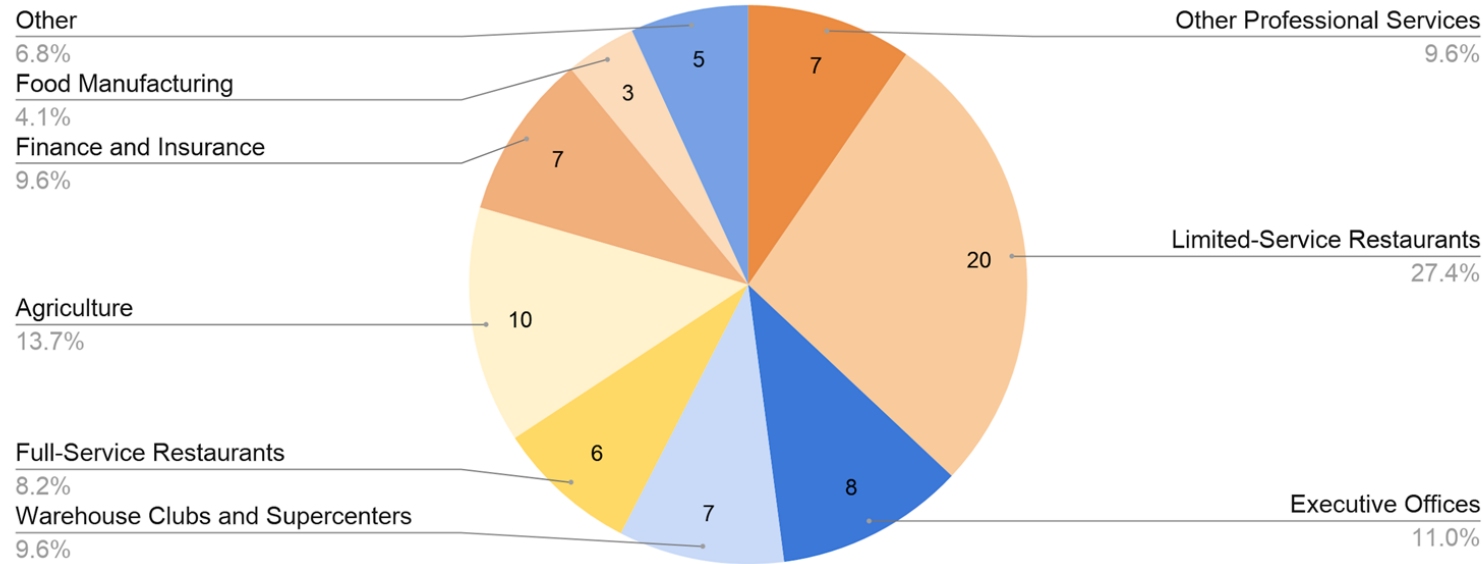
Source: [Idaho Department of Labor](#)

\*\*\*COVID-19 Essential Job

# Job Openings - Madison County

## Madison County Job Openings

As of May 8, 2020



Source: [Idaho Department of Labor](#)

## Latest Job Openings by Employer:

- High Country Potato
- Citizens Community Bank
- Beehive FCU
- Admiral Beverage Corporation (Pepsi)
- Melaleuca
- McDonald's
- Maverick
- Idaho Division of Human Resources
- Norco, Inc.
- C & B Operations, LLC
- Western Fence, Inc.
- Panda Restaurant Group, Inc.

## Older Job Openings:

- AutoZone, Inc
- Walmart
- Pizza Hut
- Sonic Drive-In
- Dominos\*\*\*
- BMC - Building Materials and Construction Solution
- Kelly Services
- Papa John's International
- Grifols
- UPS\*\*\*
- Progrexion
- Lawrence Merchandising Services
- USIC
- Walgreens\*\*\*
- NTG Groups, LLC
- Prime Communications
- Applied Materials
- America First Credit Union

\*\*\*COVID-19 Essential Job





RESEARCH & BUSINESS  
DEVELOPMENT CENTER

The Research and Business Development Center (RBDC) is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit with a mission to provide undergraduate students with meaningful work experience to better prepare them for careers and life.

Connecting students with clients to work on projects (similar to this report) that deliver value to both student and client is central to this mission.

Connect with the RBDC to see how our projects could help your business or organization with key insights through guided student projects across a broad range of disciplines and project types.

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