



RESEARCH & BUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Eastern Idaho COVID-19 Economic Report | May 25, 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) 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

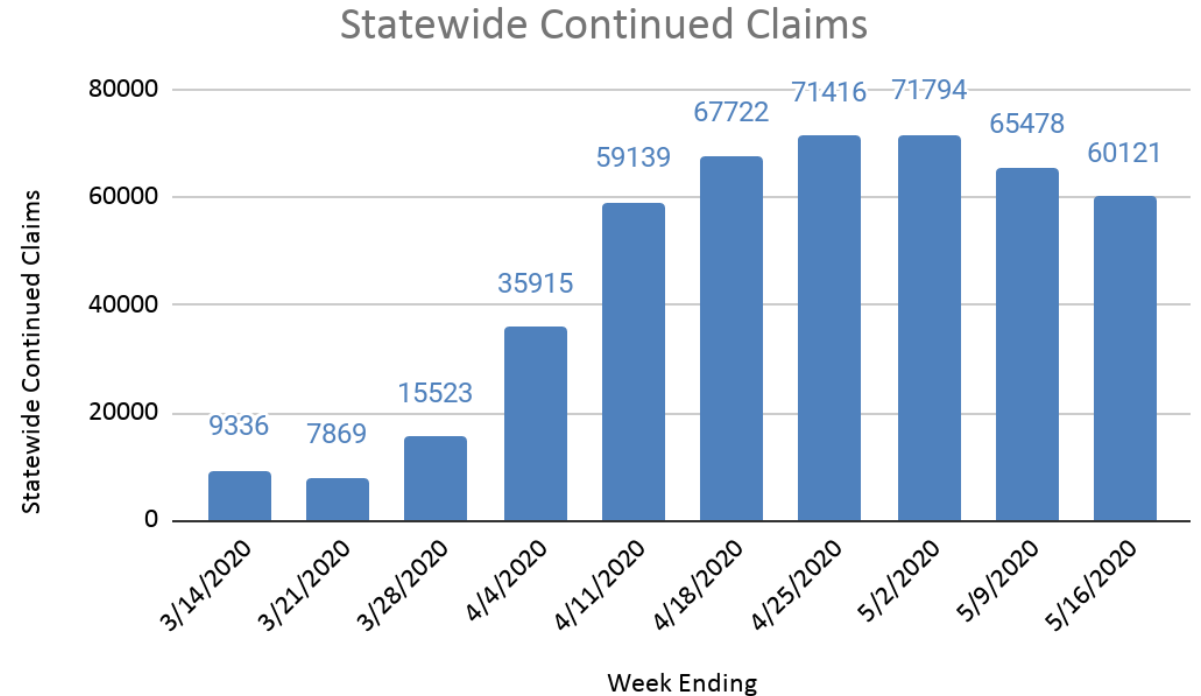
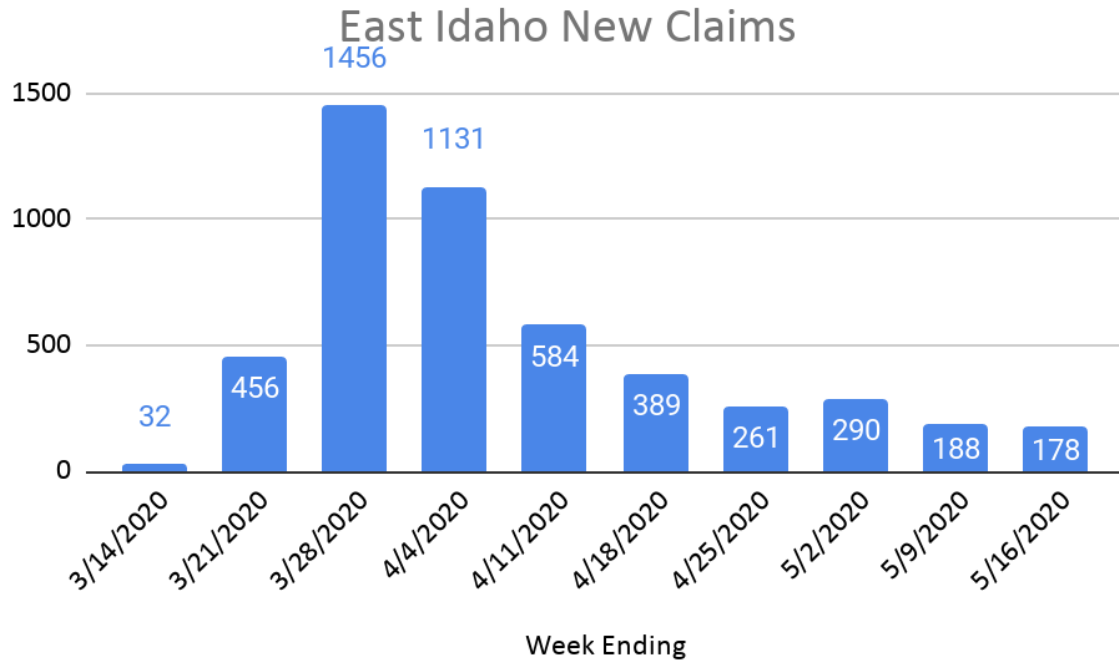
Definitions

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.

New This Week

- Unemployment Claims have continued to drop in East Idaho and as a State
- Residents in Eastern Idaho feel very comfortable going to the now reopened restaurant dining rooms
- Arrests and criminal activity in Eastern Idaho has continued to drop
- Gas prices are continuing to climb to pre-pandemic prices

Weekly Initial Unemployment Claims



Week Ending 5/16/2020

Idaho Total New Claims: 5,800

East Idaho New Claims: 178

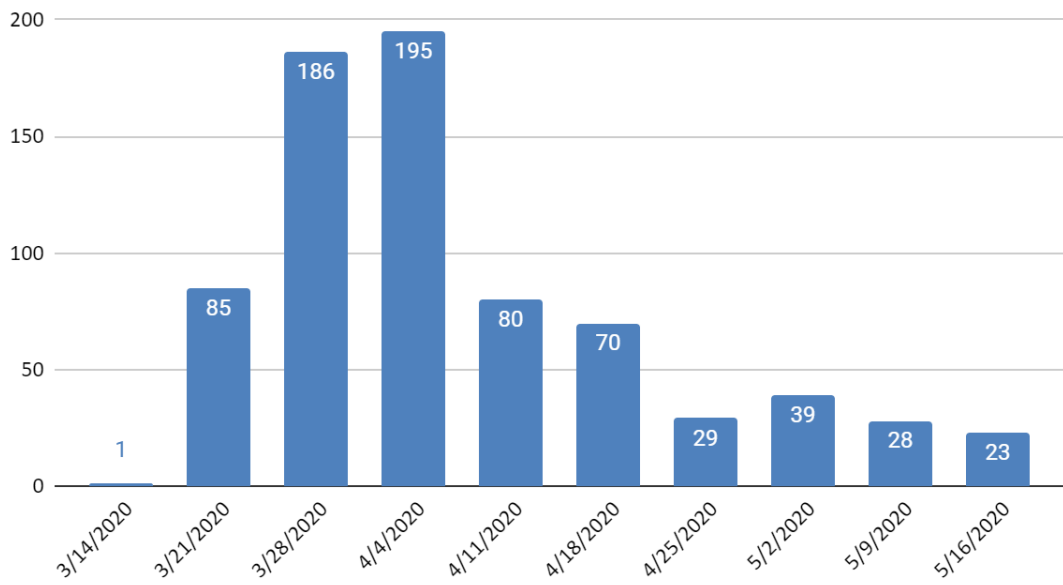
Source: Idaho Department of Labor

<https://public.tableau.com/profile/idlabor#!/vizhome/IdahoInitialClaims/Dashboard>

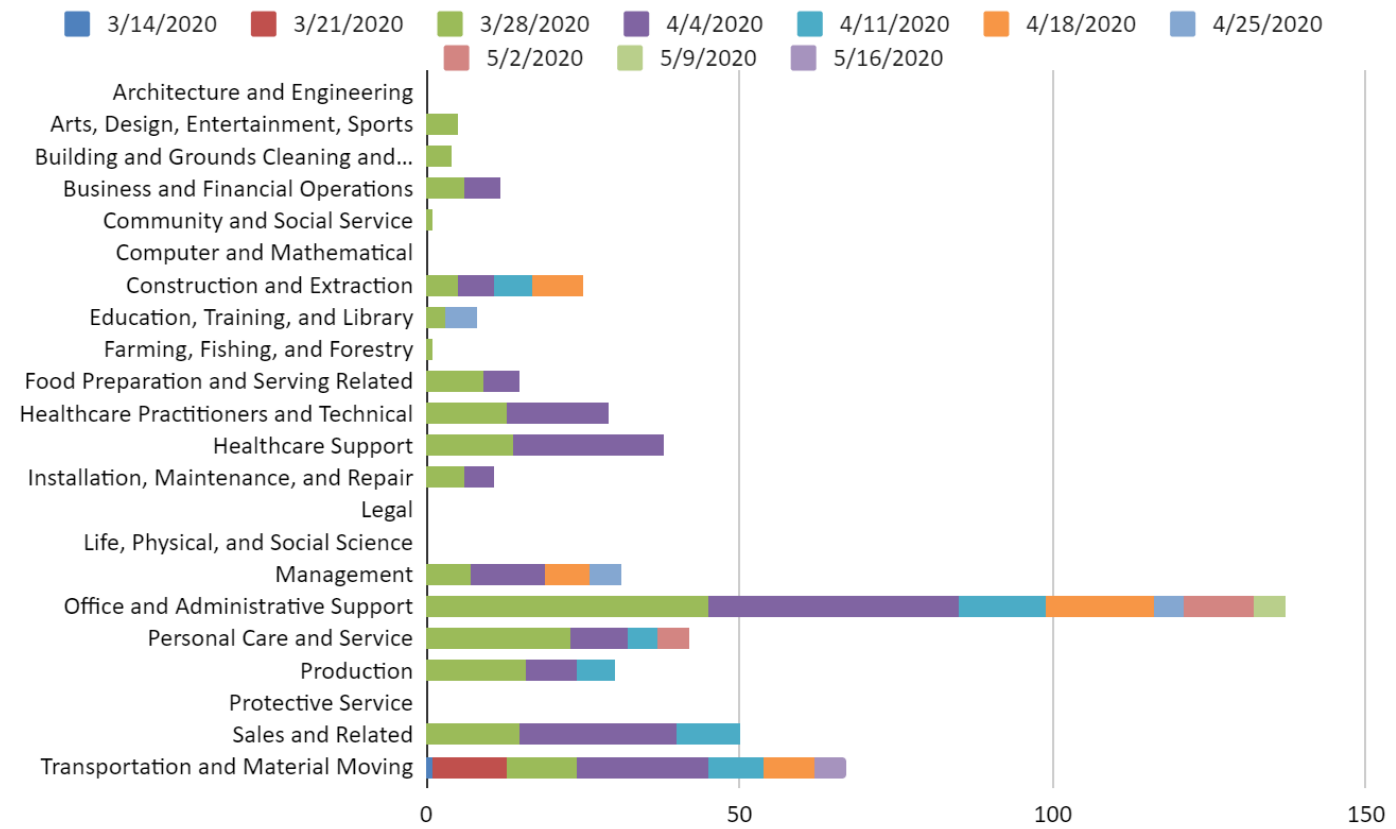


Initial Claims – Madison County

Madison County Initial Claims by Week

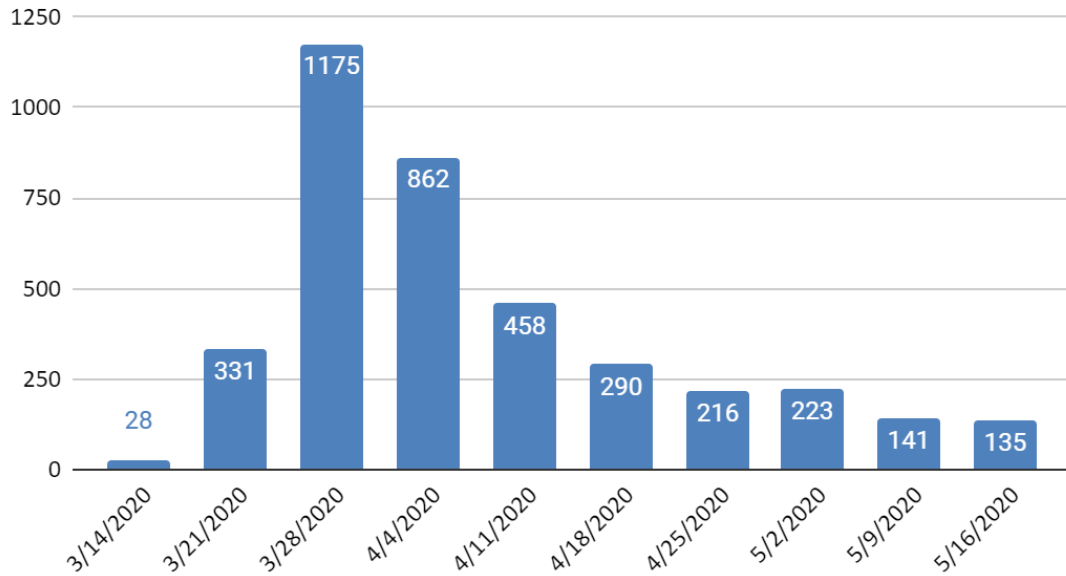


Madison County Initial Claims by Occupation

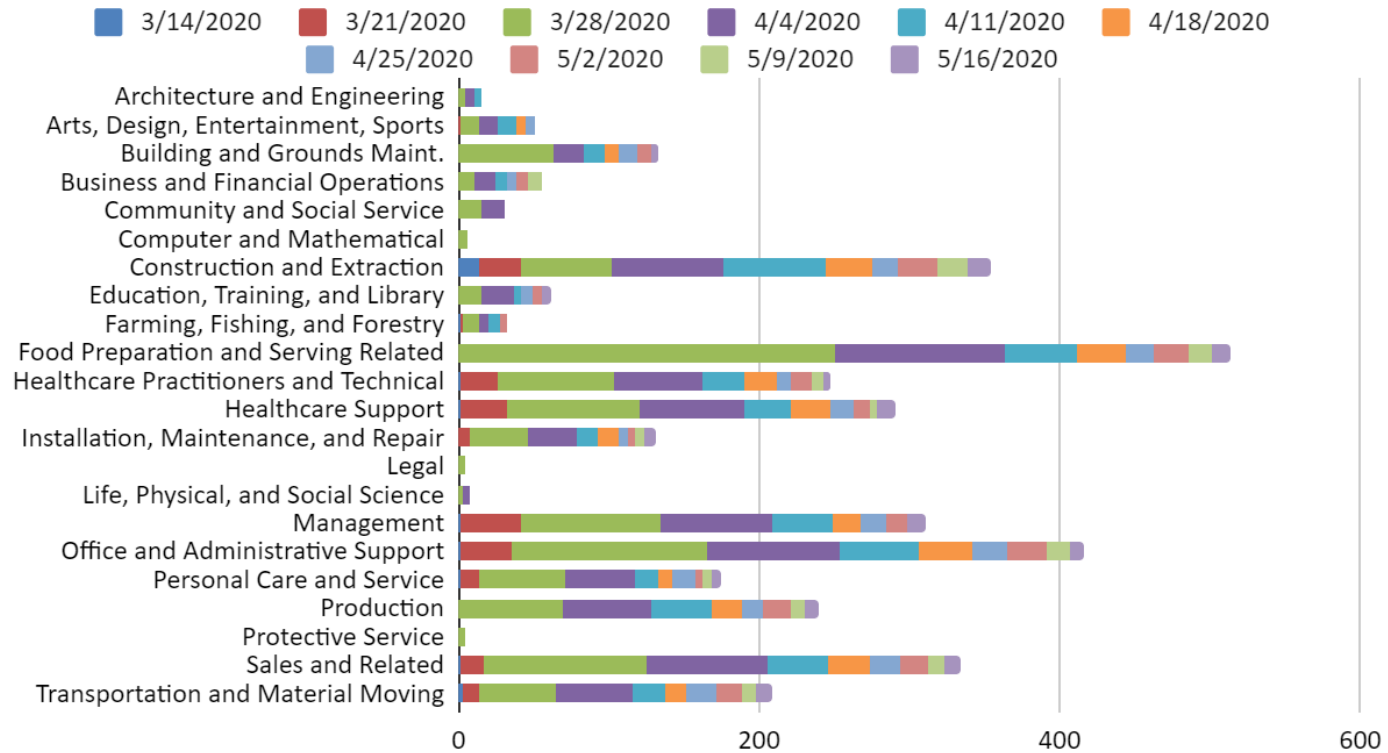


Initial Claims – Bonneville County

Bonneville County Initial Claims by Week

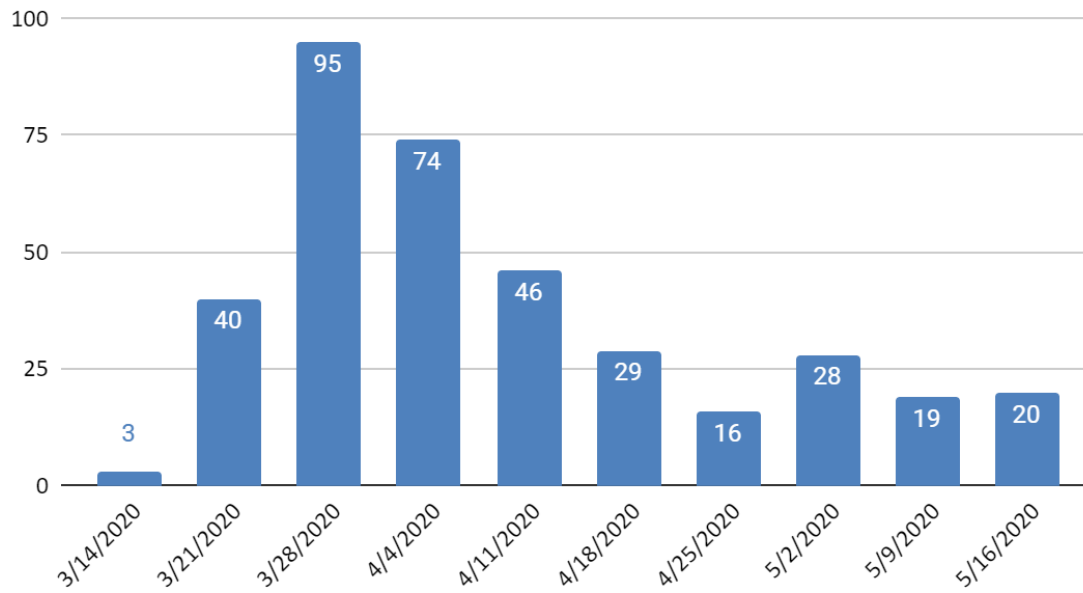


Bonneville County Initial Claims by Occupation

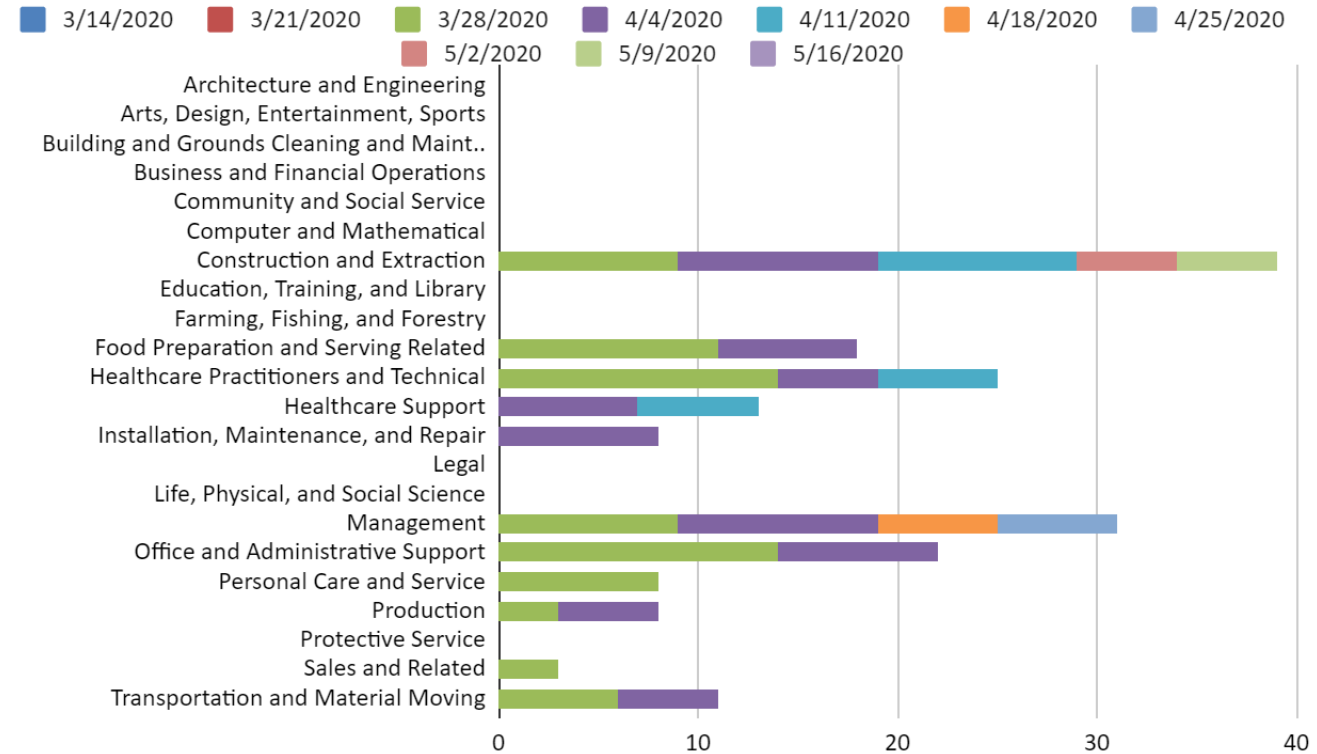


Initial Claims – Jefferson County

Jefferson County Initial Claims by Week

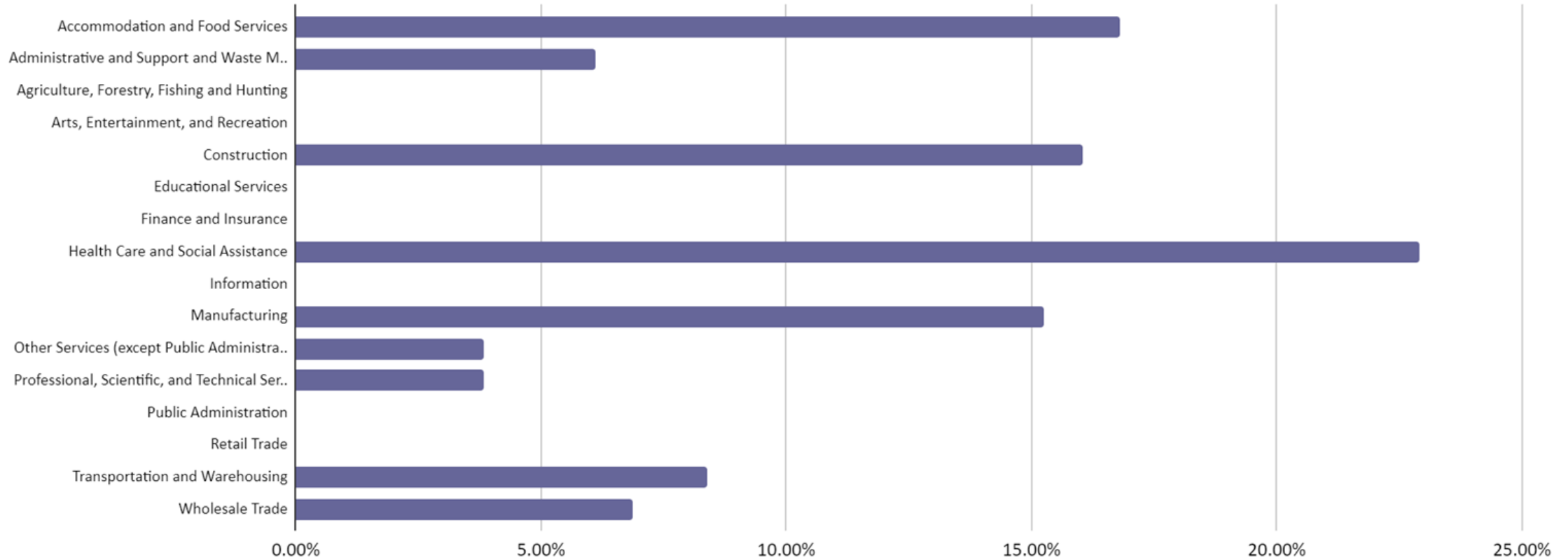


Jefferson County Initial Claims by Occupation



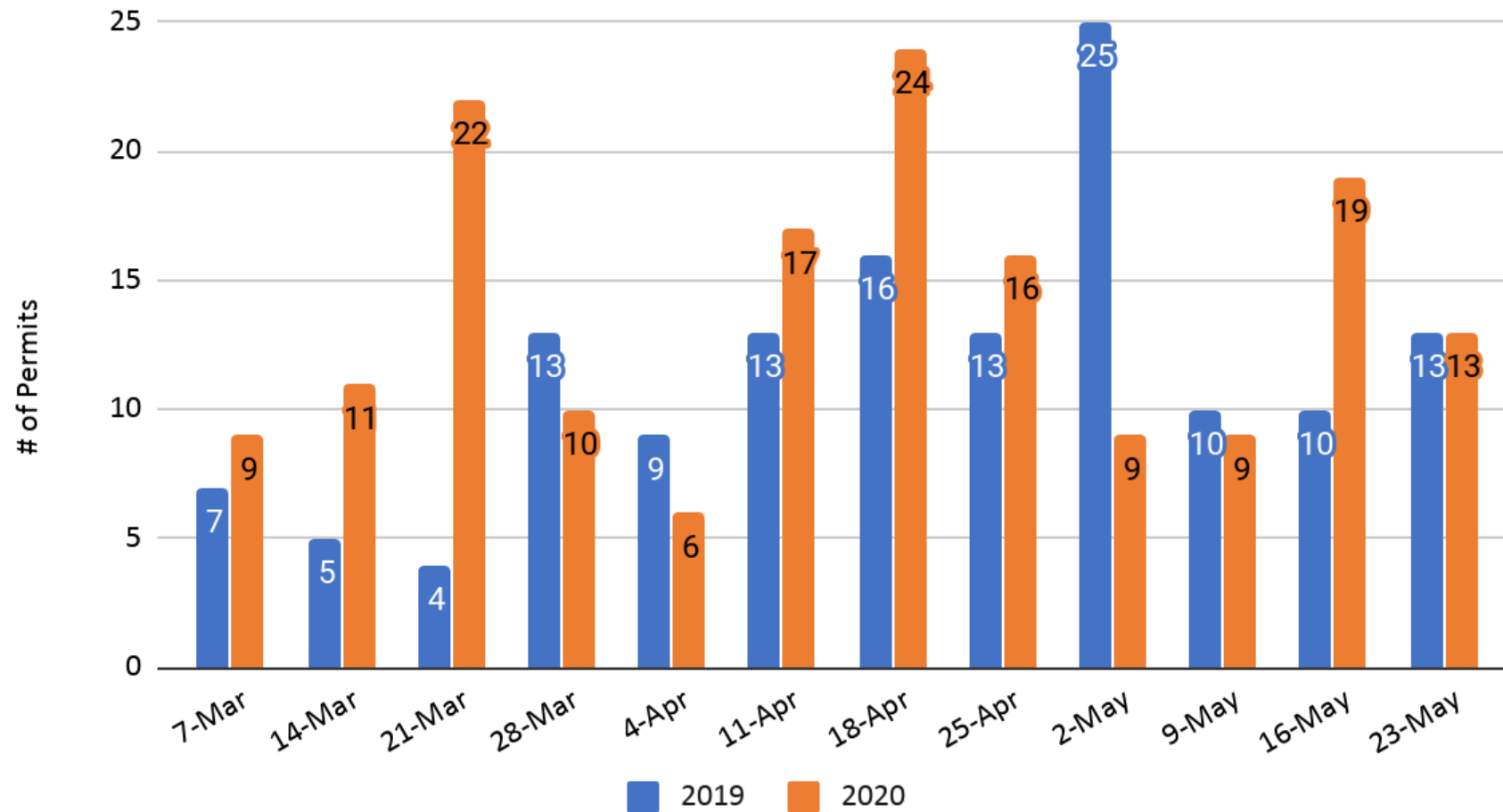
Initial Claims – Bonneville, Jefferson, Madison Counties

What Industries did the claimants work in?



Building Permits – Madison County

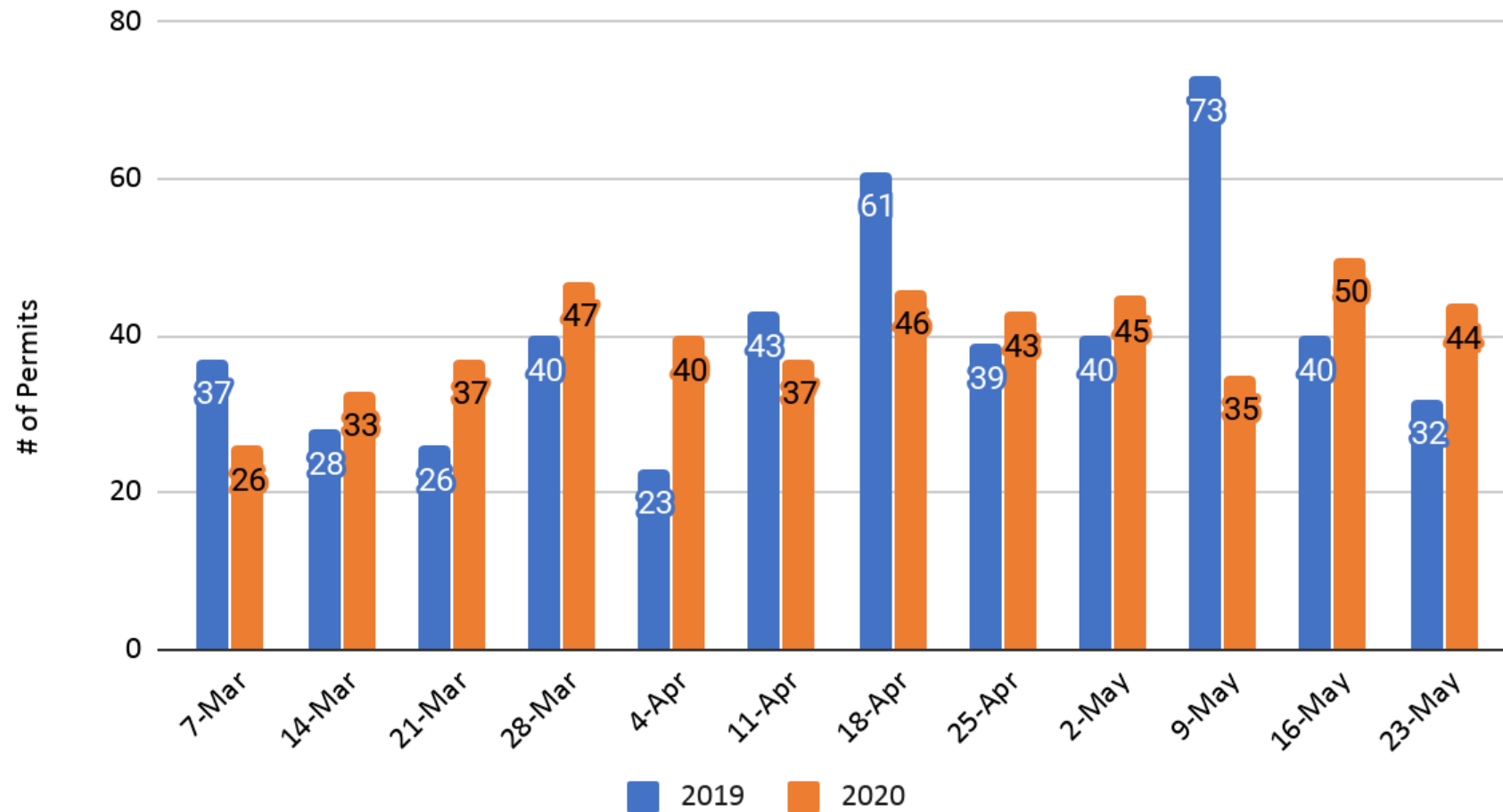
Madison County Building Permits



Source: https://web.dbs.idaho.gov/eTRAKi3/Custom/Idaho_PermitsSearch.aspx

Building Permits – Bonneville County

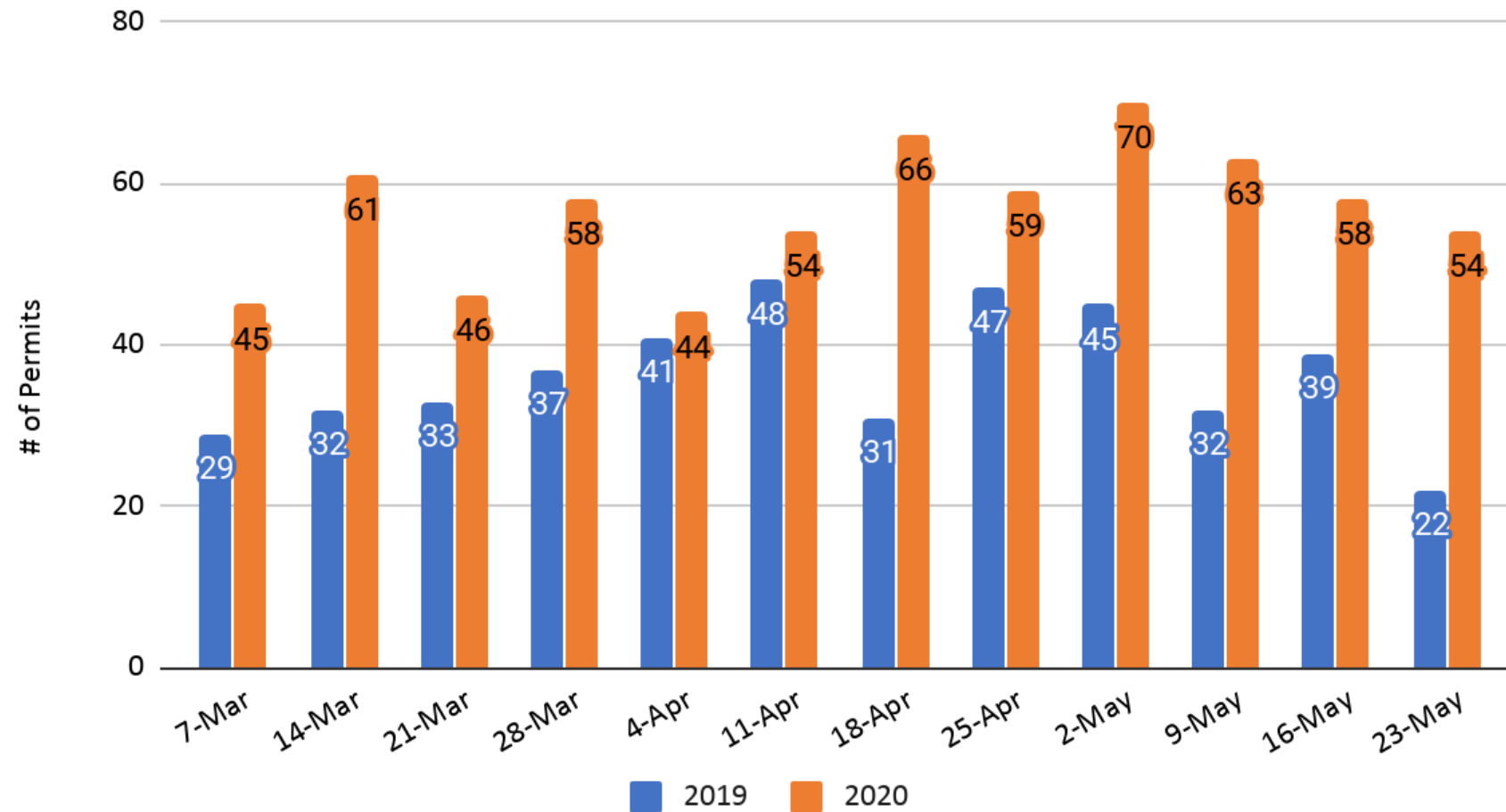
Bonneville County Building Permits



Source: https://web.dbs.idaho.gov/eTRAKit3/Custom/Idaho_PermitSearch.aspx

Building Permits – Jefferson County

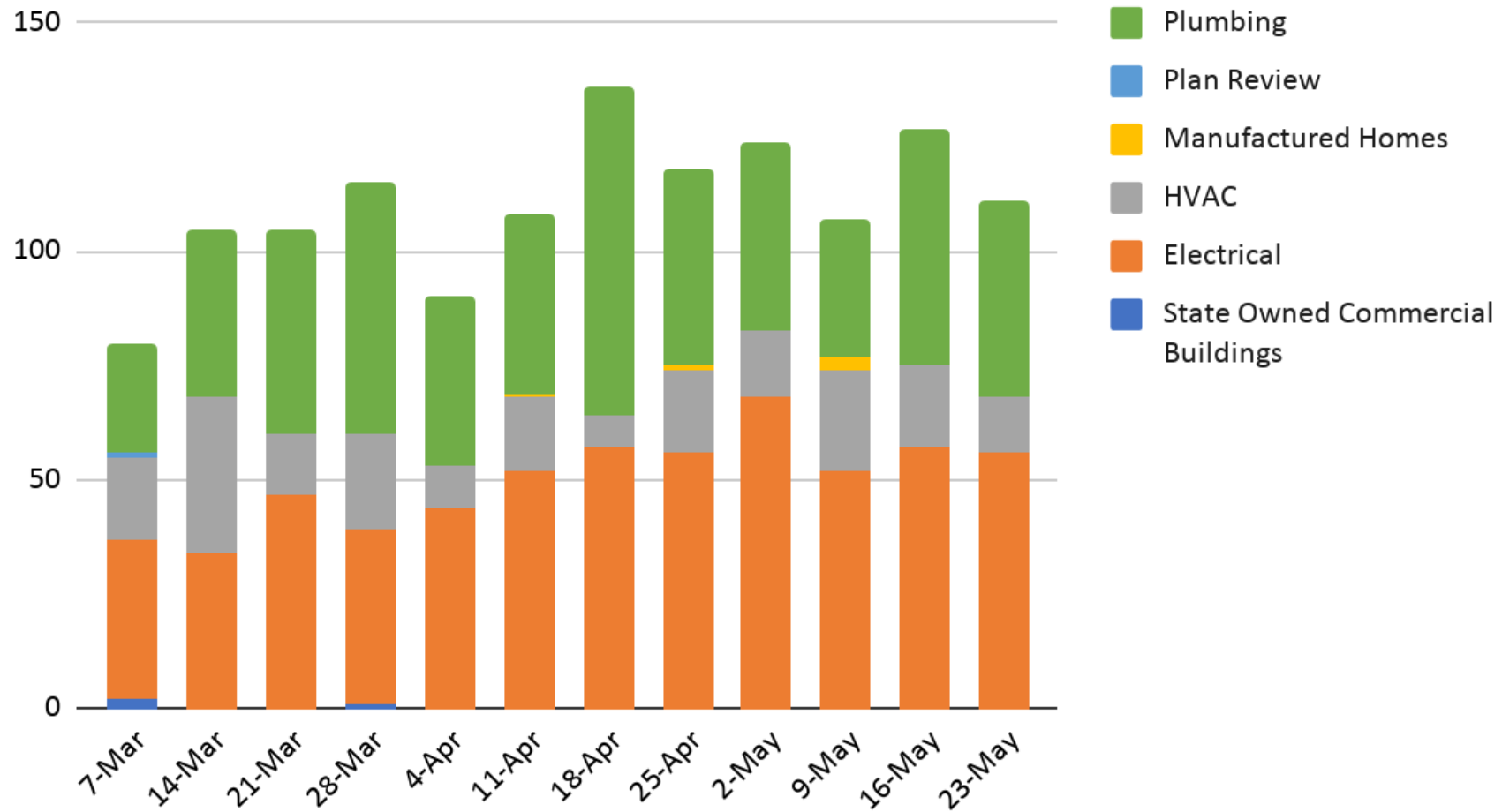
Jefferson County Building Permits



Source: https://web.dbs.idaho.gov/eTRAKiT3/Custom/Idaho_PermitSearch.aspx

Building Permits – All 3 Counties Combined

2020 Total Permit by Type

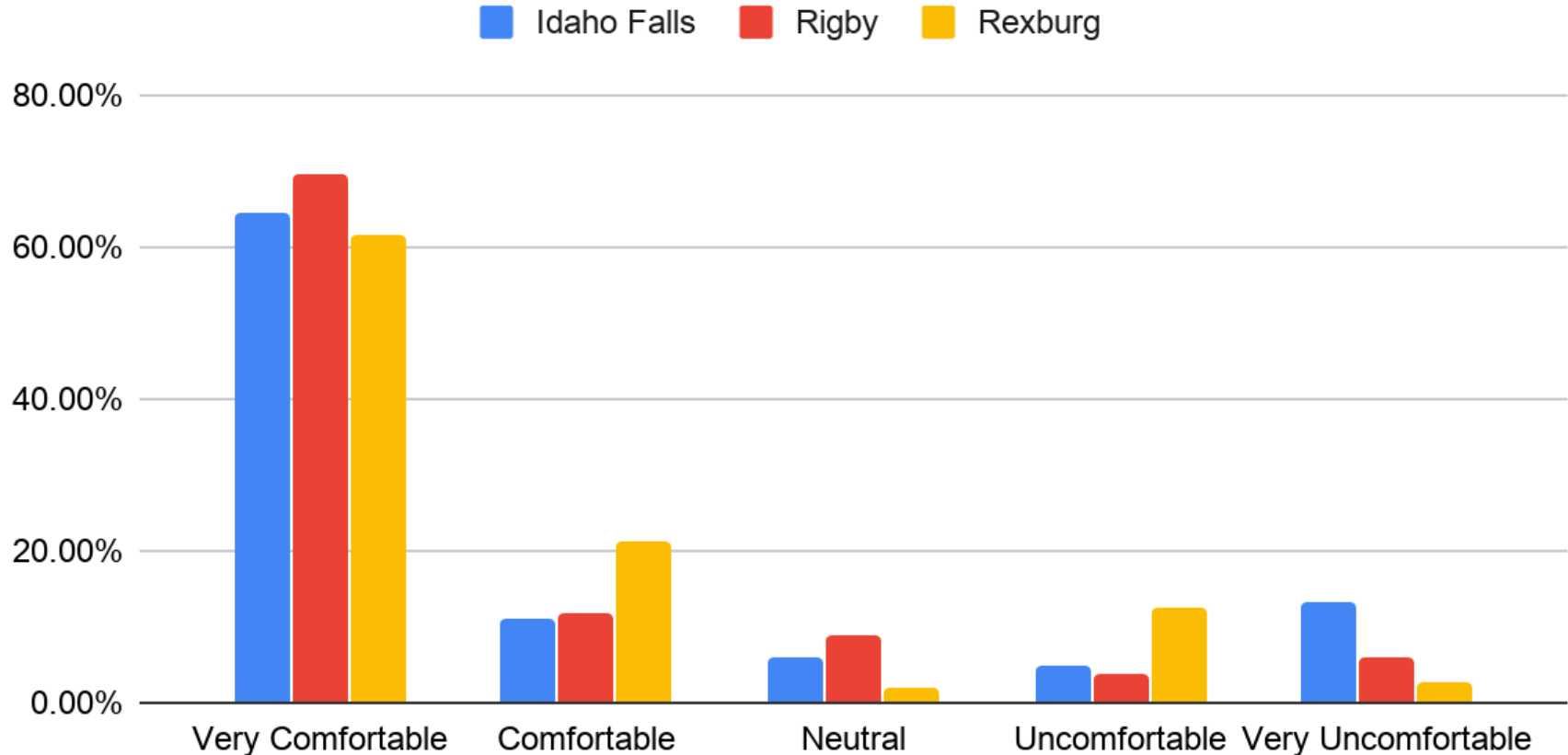


Social Media Polls

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 restaurant dining rooms?

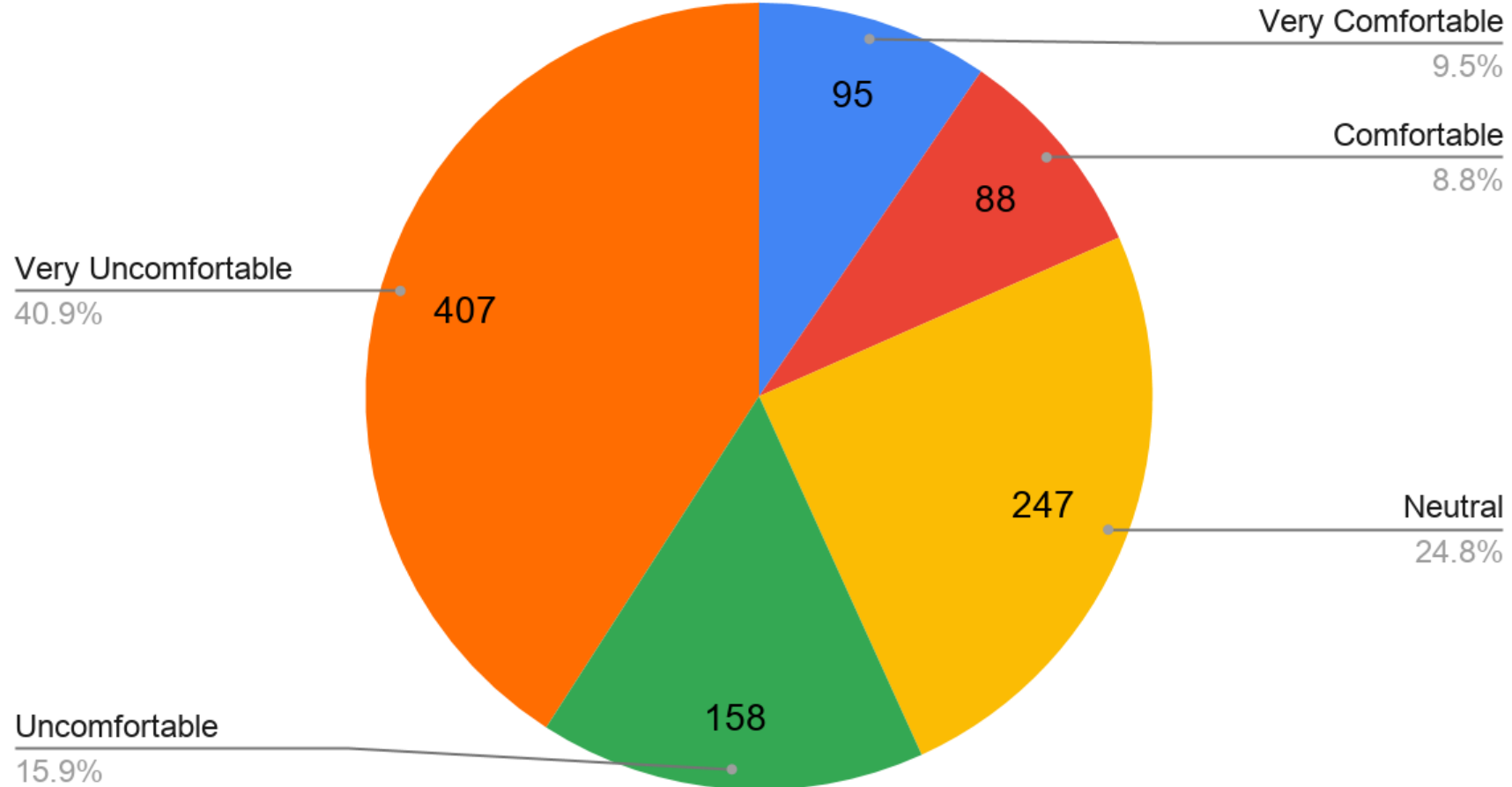


Poll posted in the Facebook Groups : 'Life in Idaho Falls', 'I<3 life in Rexburg', 'I love Rigby and I'm allowed to talk about it'



Social Media Poll Comfort Levels

How comfortable are you with wearing face masks in public?

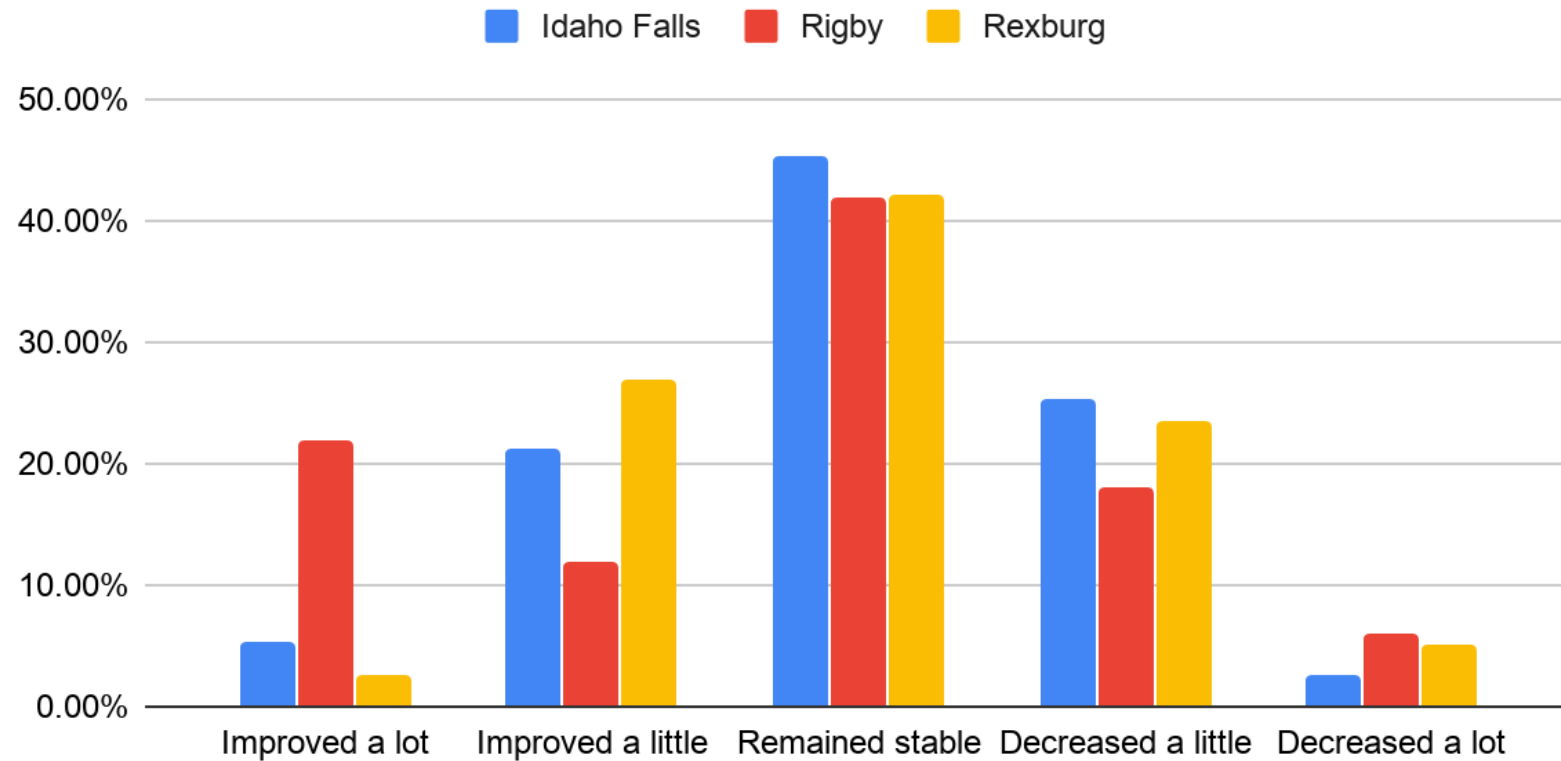


Poll posted in the Facebook Groups : 'Life in Idaho Falls', 'I<3 life in Rexburg', 'I love Rigby and I'm allowed to talk about it'



Social Media Poll Consumer Confidence

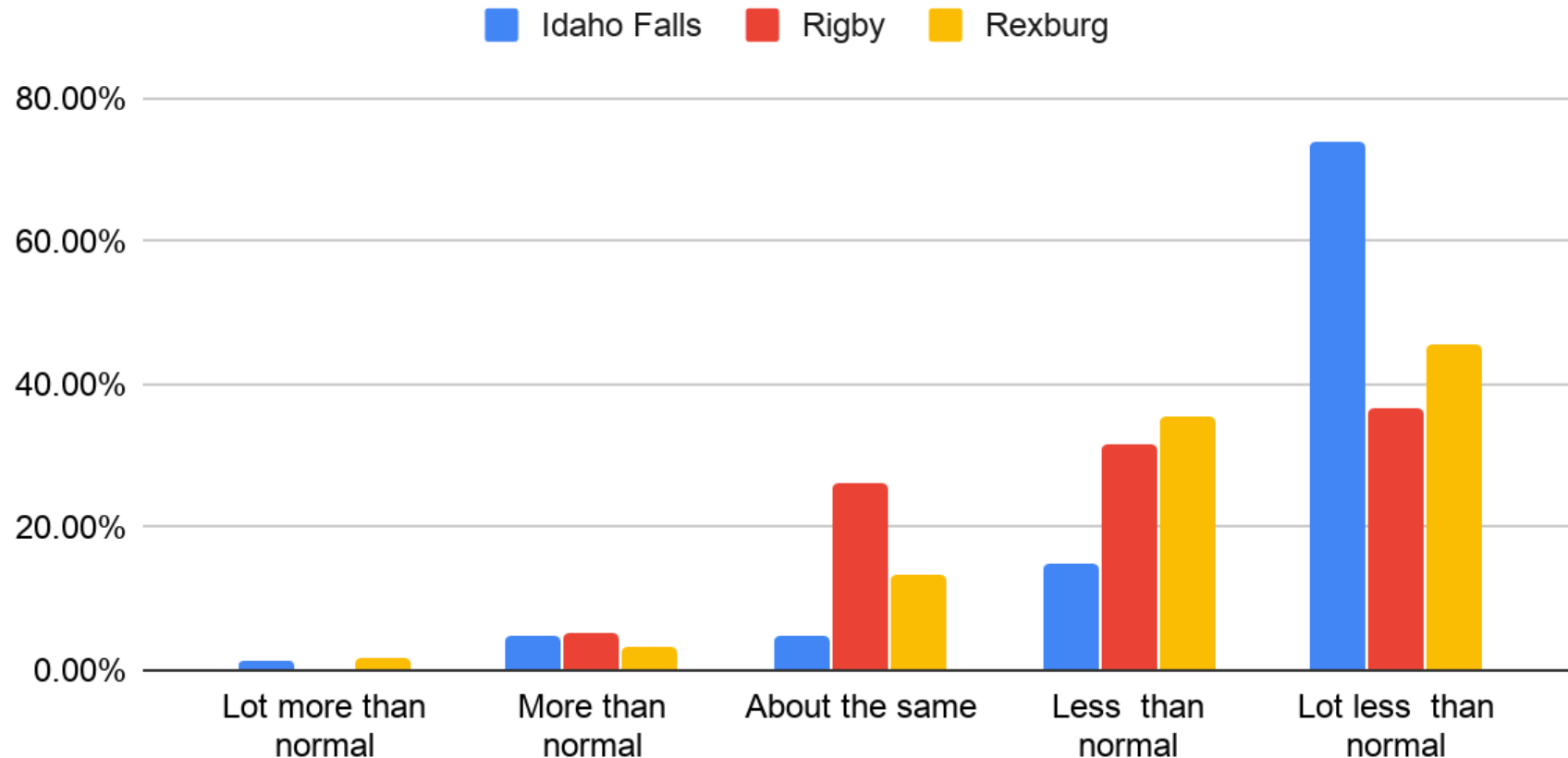
Over the last 12 months, the financial situation of your household has...



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 Distance Learning

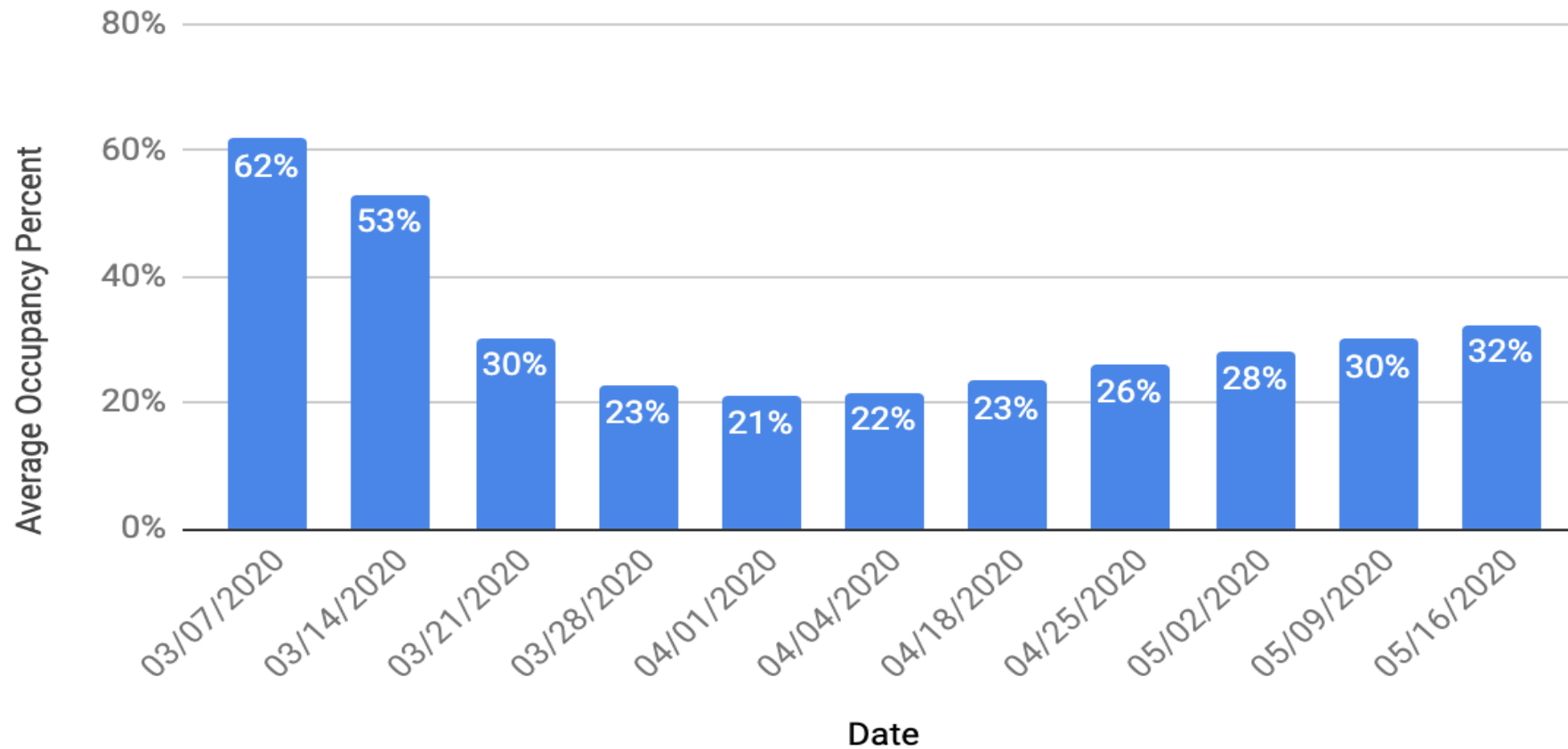
How do you feel your kids did with distance learning over the last two months? They learned ...



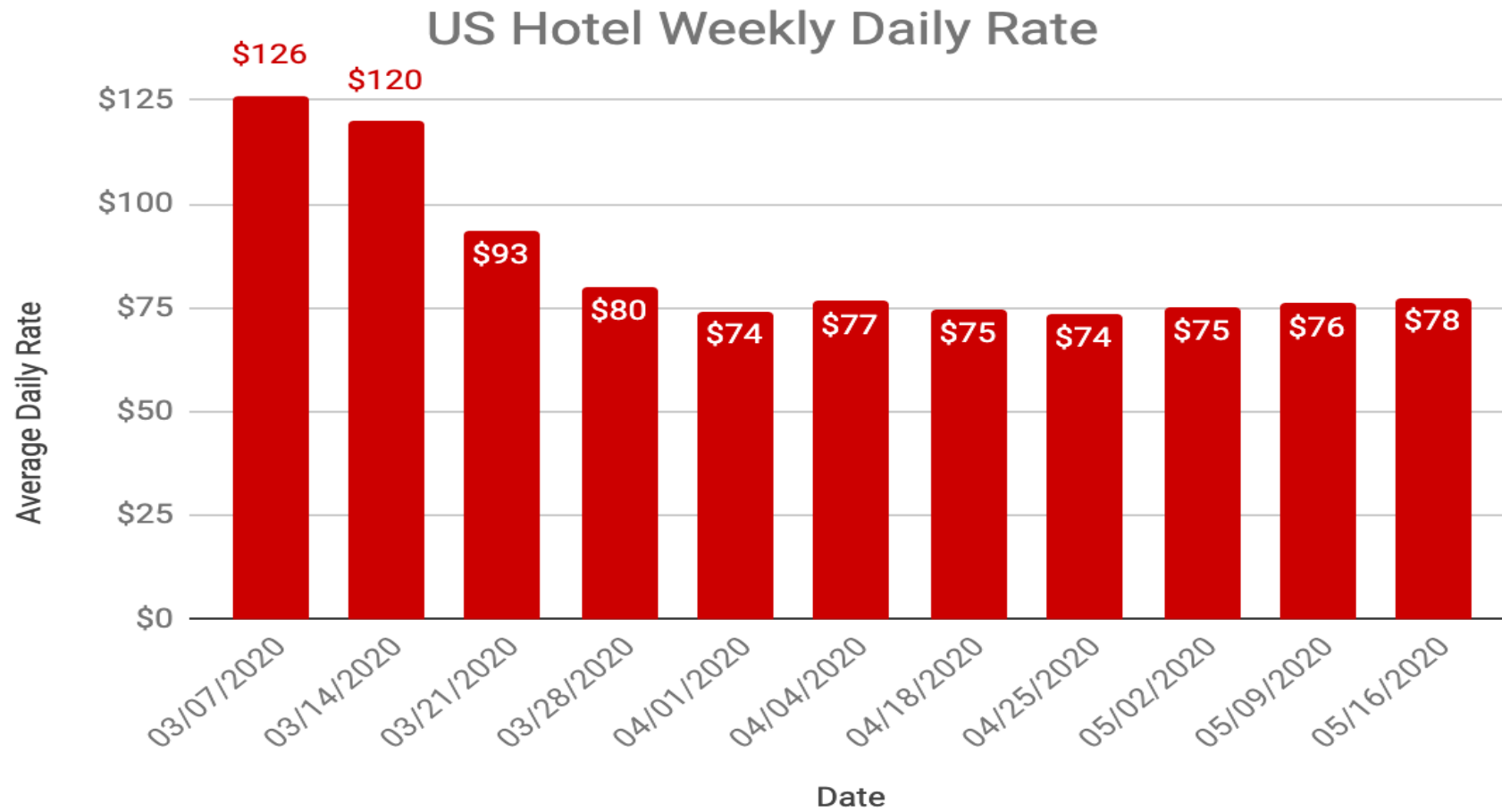
Poll posted in the Facebook Groups : 'Idaho Falls Moms,' 'I<3 life in Rexburg', 'I love Rigby and I'm allowed to talk about it'

US Hotel Weekly Data

US Hotel Weekly Occupancy Data



US Hotel Weekly Data



Retail Analysis

Would you require your customers to wear face masks?



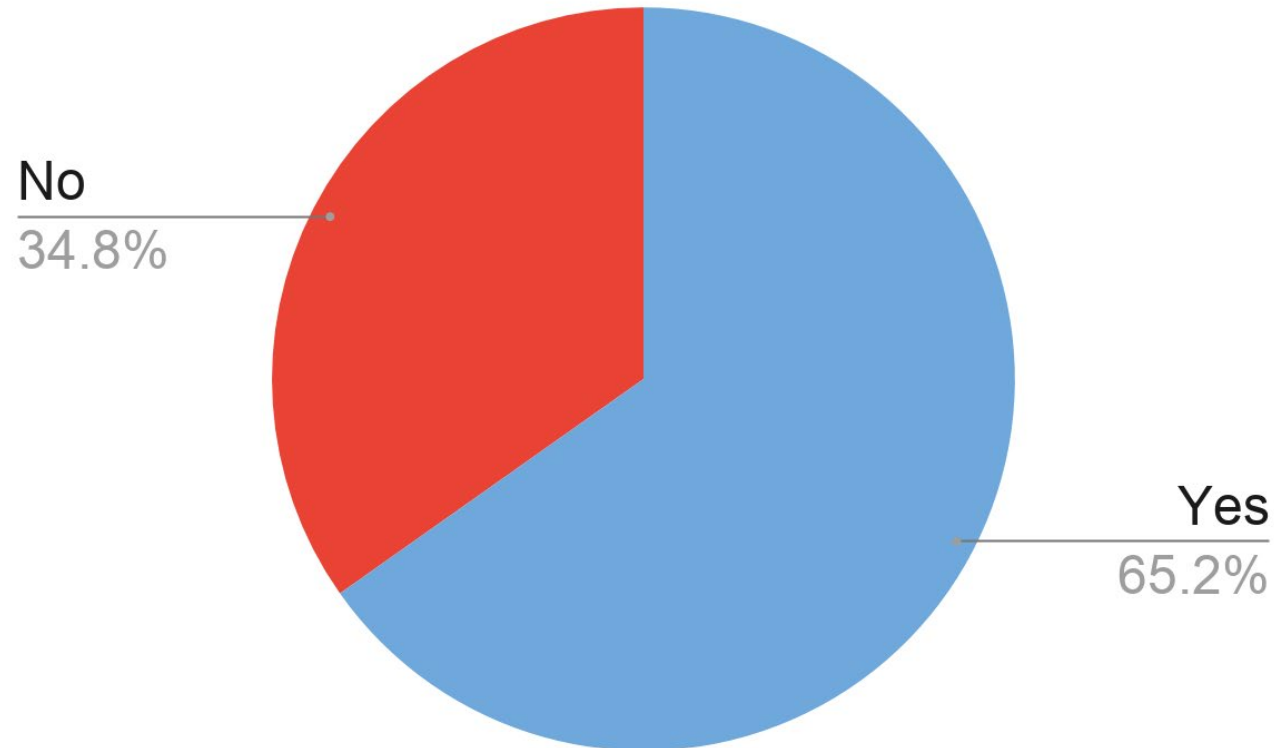
Insights:

- Out of 38 total businesses only 3 businesses will require their customers to wear face masks.
- Many businesses voiced that they will cater to what the customer prefers with reference to wearing a face mask. If a customer feel comfortable wearing a face mask with in a business. The business will comply by doing the same to help their customer feel comfortable and safe.

Retail Analysis

Toward businesses that reopened their storefronts during Phases 1 and 2

- **With the implementation of Phases 1 and 2, have you had an influx of customers?**



Insights:

- The majority of businesses that opened their storefronts experienced an influx of customers
- After about week, some businesses that did not experience an influx of customers upon reopening their storefronts returned to pre COVID-19 outbreak usual.
- Although home businesses were not included in this data because they do not have storefronts, many still experienced an influx of customers once Phase 1 and 2 were implemented.

Retail Industry: Change In Sales

Was the change in customers positive, no change or negative during the lockdown?

| Industry | Negative | No Change | Positive |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Antiques | 50.00% | 50.00% | |
| Craft and Home Decor | 45.45% | 36.36% | 18.18% |
| Fishing/Tackle/ETC. | 80.00% | | 20.00% |
| Floral | 40.00% | 40.00% | 20.00% |
| Music and Jewelry | 100.00% | | |
| Printing and Embrodary | 66.67% | 33.33% | |
| Specialty Foods | 83.33% | 16.67% | |
| Grand Total | 61.76% | 26.47% | 11.76% |

*5/39 businesses refused to answer or didn't know (blank section)

Insights:

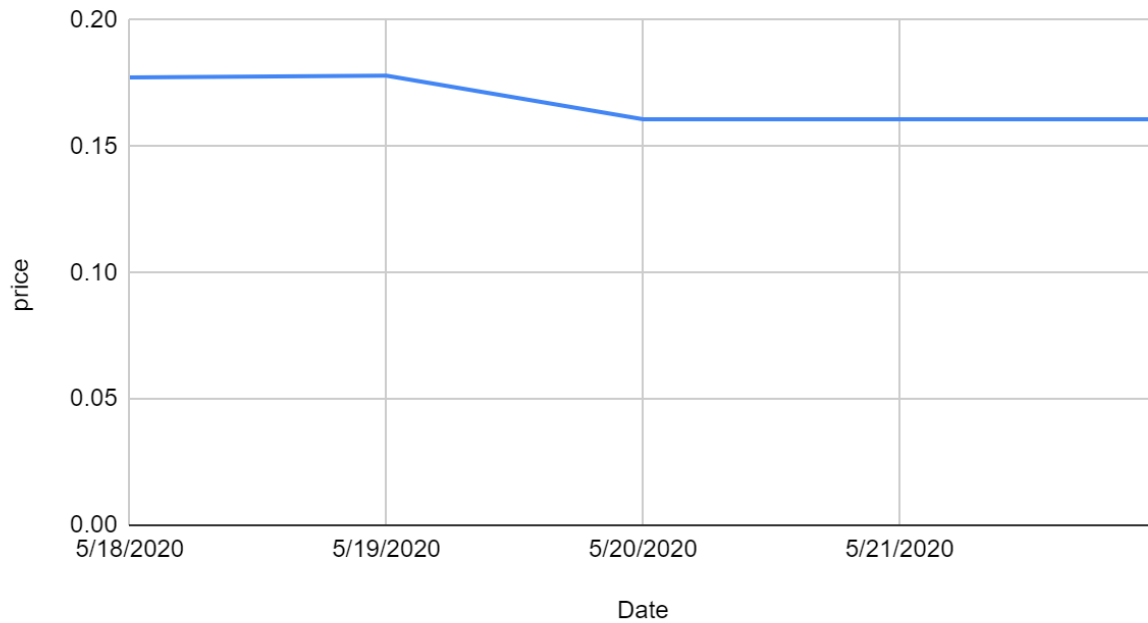
- During the lockdown, very few businesses per industry showed growth in sales. The overwhelming majority of businesses saw a loss of customers and sales.

Retail Industry Survey Results

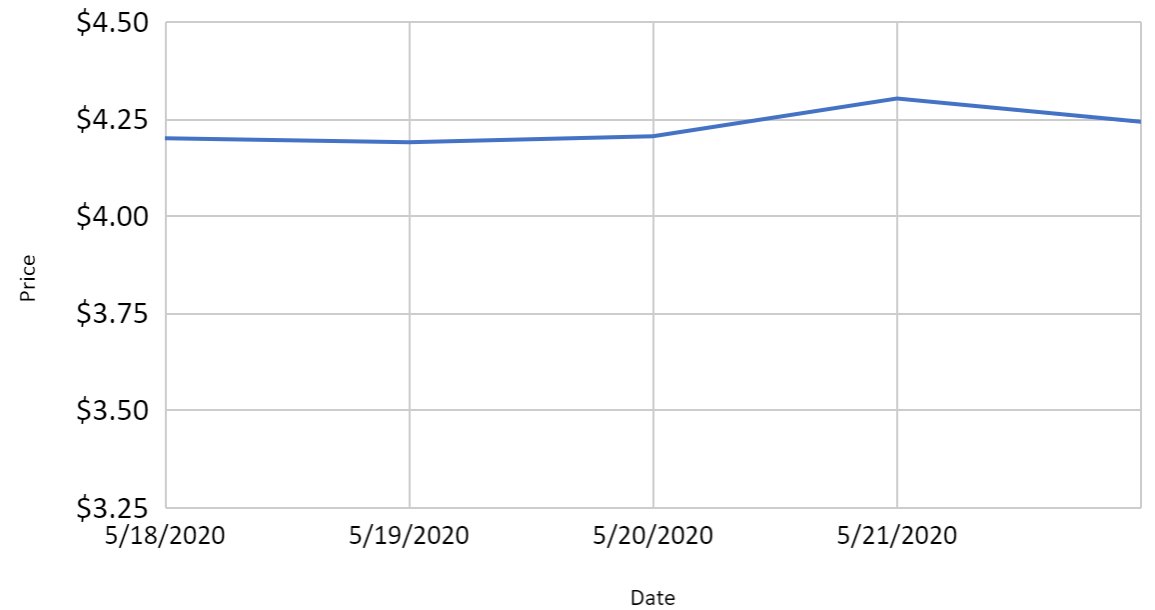
| | | 1) Were you considered a COVID-19 essential business? | 2) Did you have to close your business or your store front due to the "Stay at Home" order? | 3) Did you have to layoff employees due to the "Stay at Home" order? | 4) Did you offer curbside pick-up on items? | 5) With the implementation of Phase 1/2, did you open your storefront to customers? | 6) With the implementation of Phase 1/2, have you had an influx of customers? | 7) Do you feel the new healthcare regulations with social distancing, etc. will affect your business? | 8) Would you require your customers to wear face masks? |
|-------------|-----|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Rexburg | Yes | 4 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| | No | 4 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 7 |
| Idaho Falls | Yes | 14 | 16 | 9 | 19 | 11 | 12 | 10 | 2 |
| | No | 12 | 6 | 18 | 8 | 9 | 13 | 16 | 25 |
| Rigby | Yes | 2 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 1 |
| | No | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| Total | Yes | 20 | 21 | 13 | 27 | 17 | 18 | 13 | 3 |
| | No | 17 | 9 | 22 | 12 | 9 | 17 | 23 | 35 |

Agricultural Weekly Prices

Average Price Received Per Pound by Farmers for Potatoes

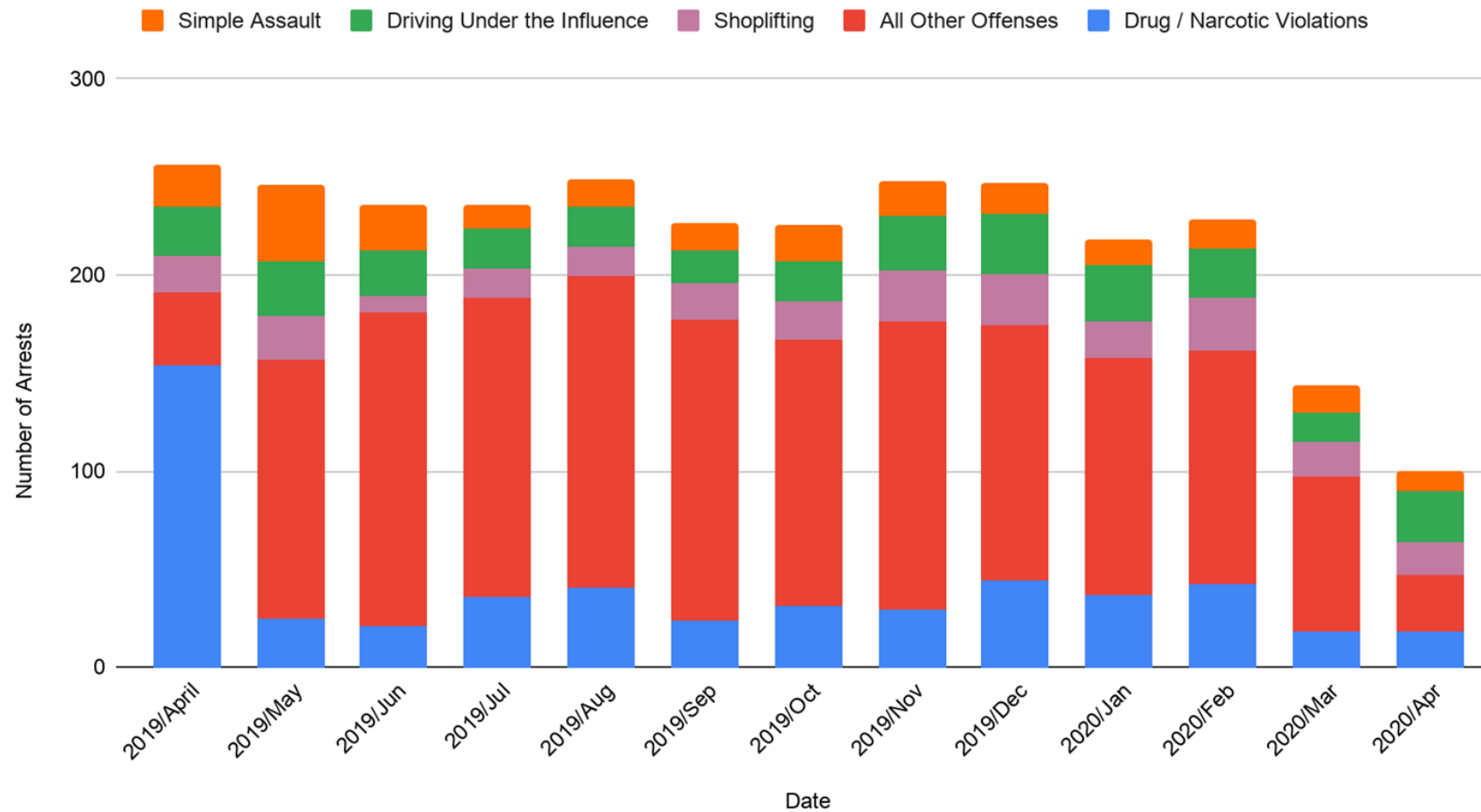


Average Price Received Per Bushel by Farmers for Wheat



Bonneville Criminal Activity and Arrests

Arrests for the Top 5 Offenses in Bonneville County (As of the end of April)



Bonneville Criminal Activity and Arrests

Compared to Bonneville Counties population of 119,062

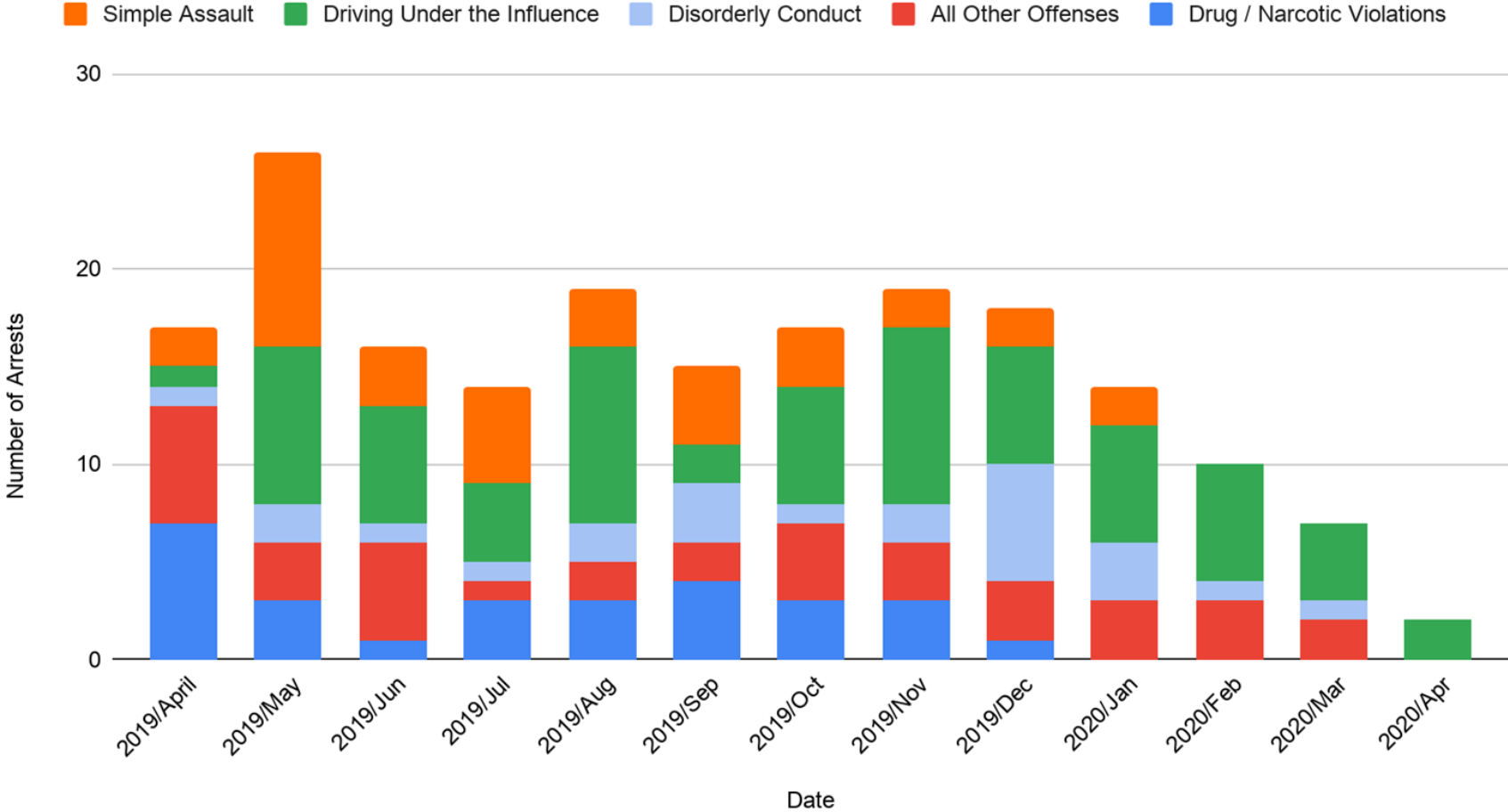
In 2019, there was an average of 8 arrest per 1,000 people in the first terminal.

In 2020, there was an average of 7 arrets per 1,000 people in the first terminal

| Monthly Tracker: Number Of Incidentis | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------|------|-------------------------------------|
| Month | 2019 | 2020 | Percent Change in Number of Arrests |
| Jan | 229 | 231 | 1% |
| Feb | 167 | 231 | 38% |
| Mar | 274 | 185 | -32% |
| Apr | 236 | 149 | -37% |

Jefferson Criminal Activity and Arrests

Arrests for the Top 5 Offenses in Jefferson County (As of the end of April)



Jefferson Criminal Activity and Arrests

Compared to Jefferson Counties population of 29,871

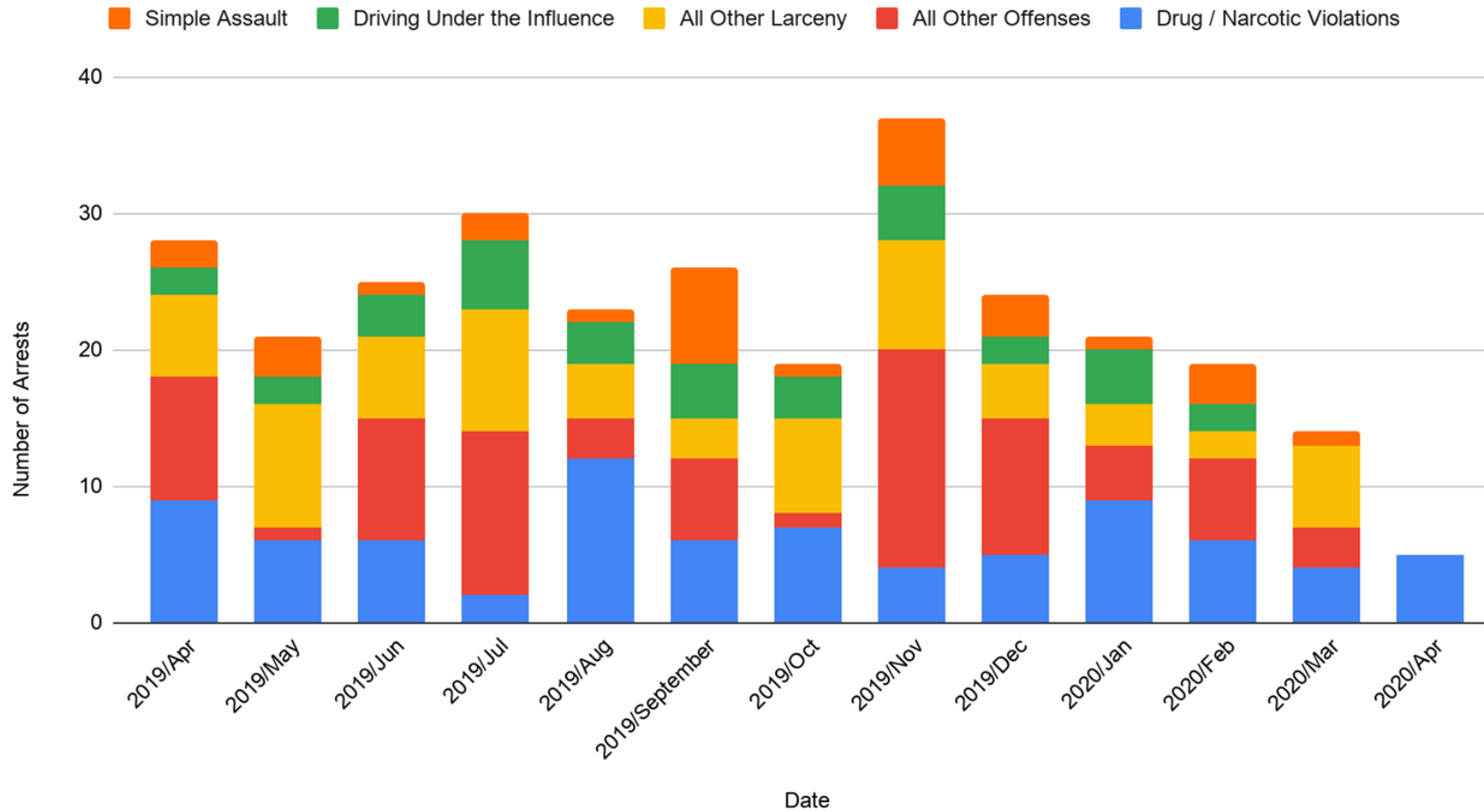
In 2019, there was an average of 4 arrest per 1,000 people in the first terminal.

In 2020, there was an average of 3 arrets per 1,000 people in the first terminal

| Monthly Tracker: Number Of Incident | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------|------|-------------------------------------|
| Month | 2019 | 2020 | Percent Change in number of Arrests |
| Jan | 39 | 26 | -33% |
| Feb | 19 | 18 | -5% |
| Mar | 25 | 18 | -28% |
| Apr | 27 | 18 | -33% |

Madison Criminal Activity and Arrests

Arrests for the Top 5 Offenses in Madison County (As of the end of April)



Madison Criminal Activity and Arrests

Compared to Madison Counties population of 39,907

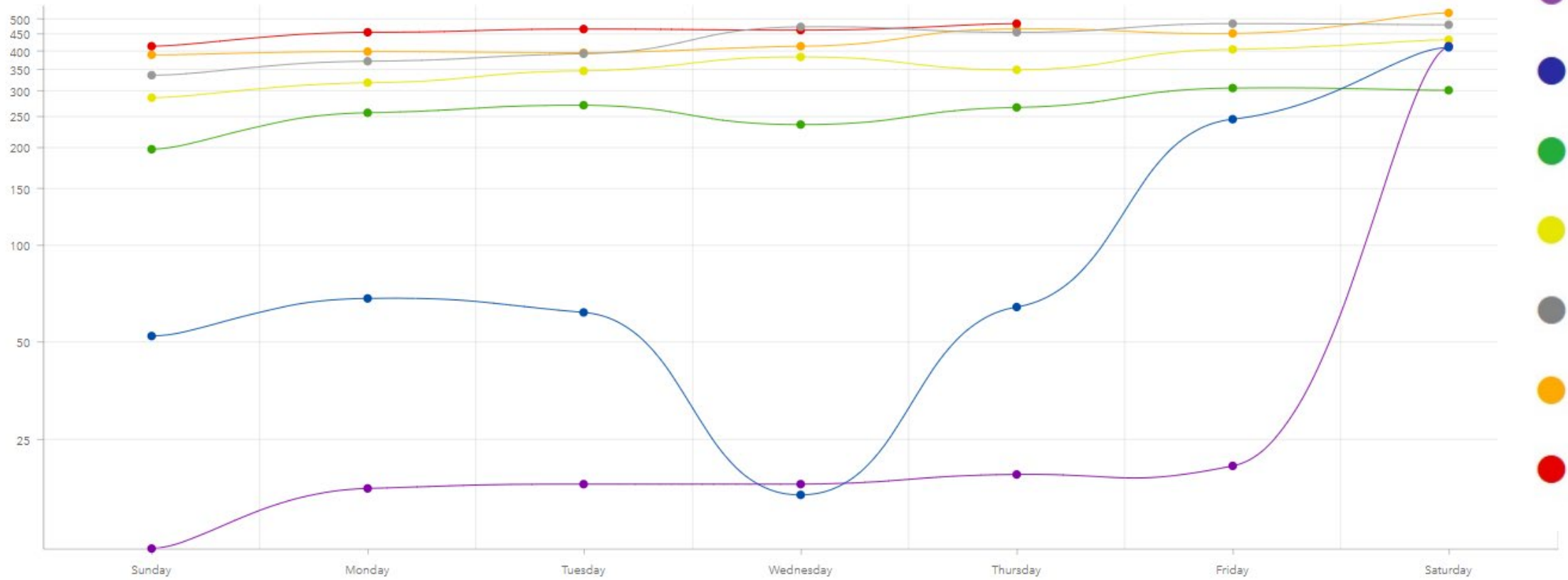
In 2019, there was an average of 3 arrest per 1,000 people in the first terminal.

Update to follow 2020 terminal.

| Monthly Tracker: Number Of Incidents | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Month | 2019 | 2020 | Percent Change in Number of Arrests |
| Jan | 18 | 14 | -22% |
| Feb | 23 | 18 | -22% |
| Mar | 30 | No Incidents Submitted | |
| Apr | 23 | No Incidents Submitted | |

Traffic Volumes - Bonneville

Weekly Traffic Volumes



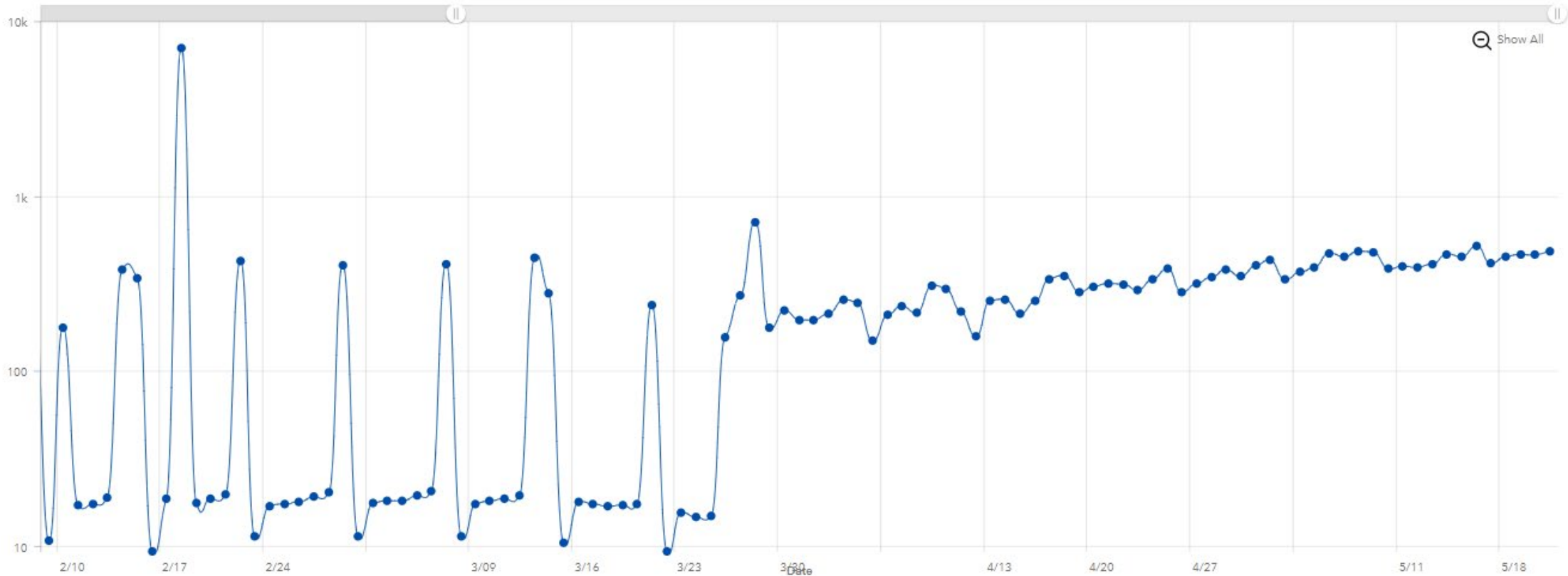
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Traffic Volumes - Bonneville

Average Daily Traffic Volume from February 10th to May 18th

Average Daily Traffic Volumes for 2020

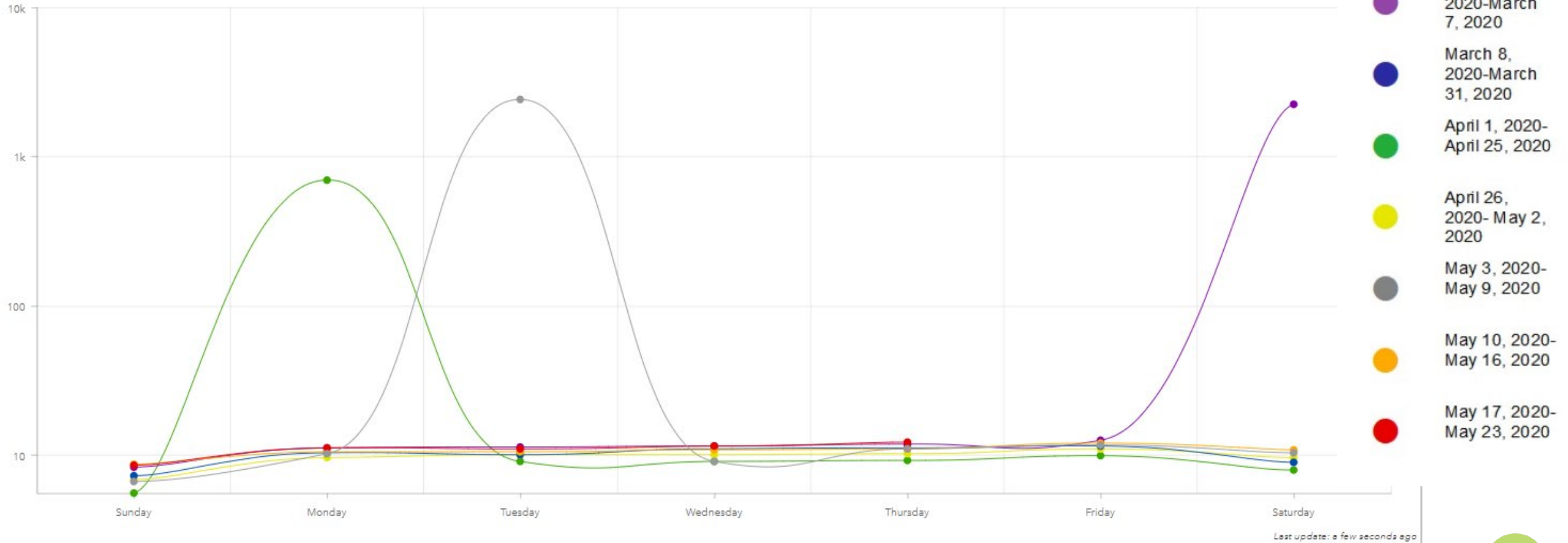


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Traffic Volumes - Jefferson

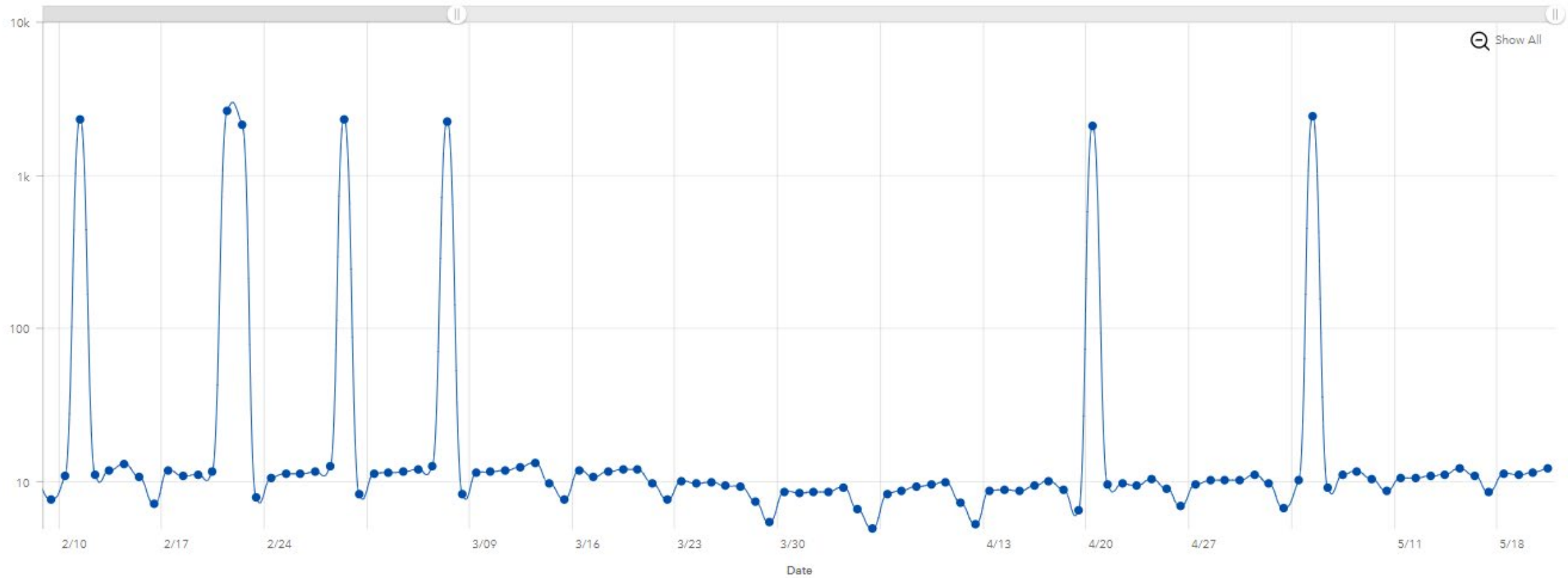
Weekly Traffic Volumes



Traffic Volumes - Jefferson

Average Daily Traffic Volume from February 10th to May 18th

Average Daily Traffic Volumes for 2020

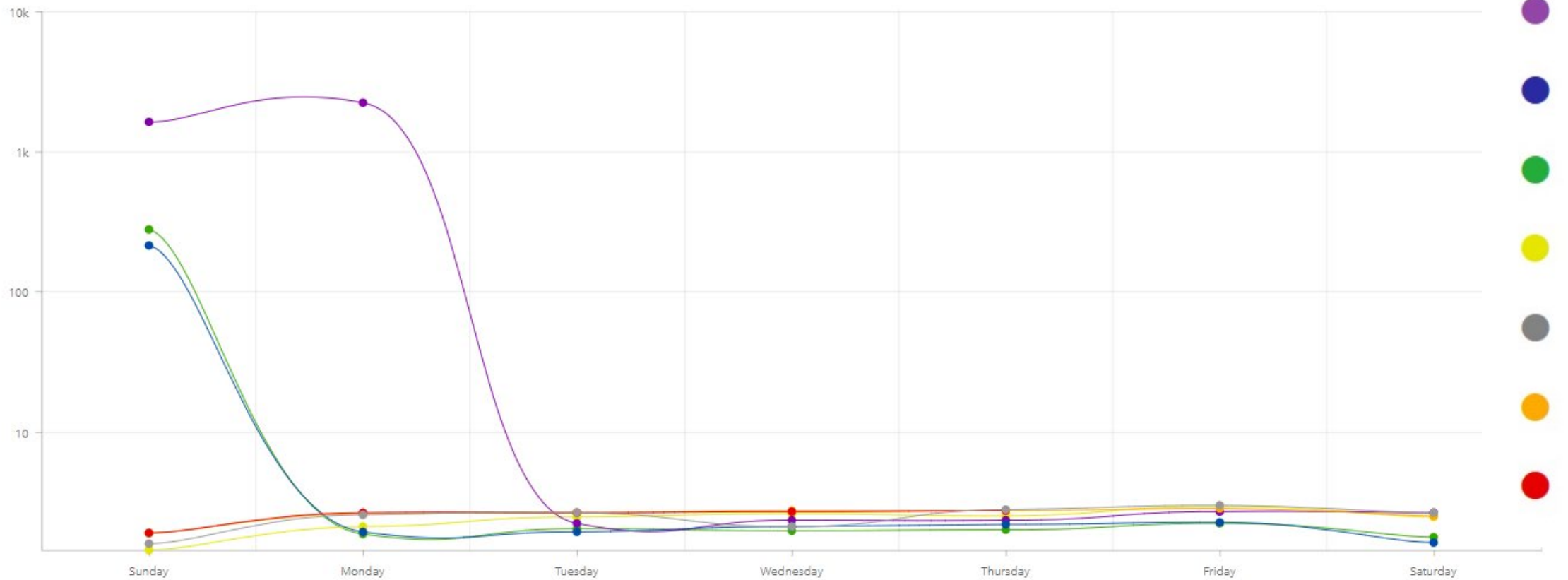


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Traffic Volumes - Madison

Weekly Traffic Volumes



- March 1, 2020-March 7, 2020
- March 8, 2020-March 31, 2020
- April 1, 2020-April 25, 2020
- April 26, 2020-May 2, 2020
- May 3, 2020-May 9, 2020
- May 10, 2020-May 16, 2020
- May 17, 2020-May 23, 2020

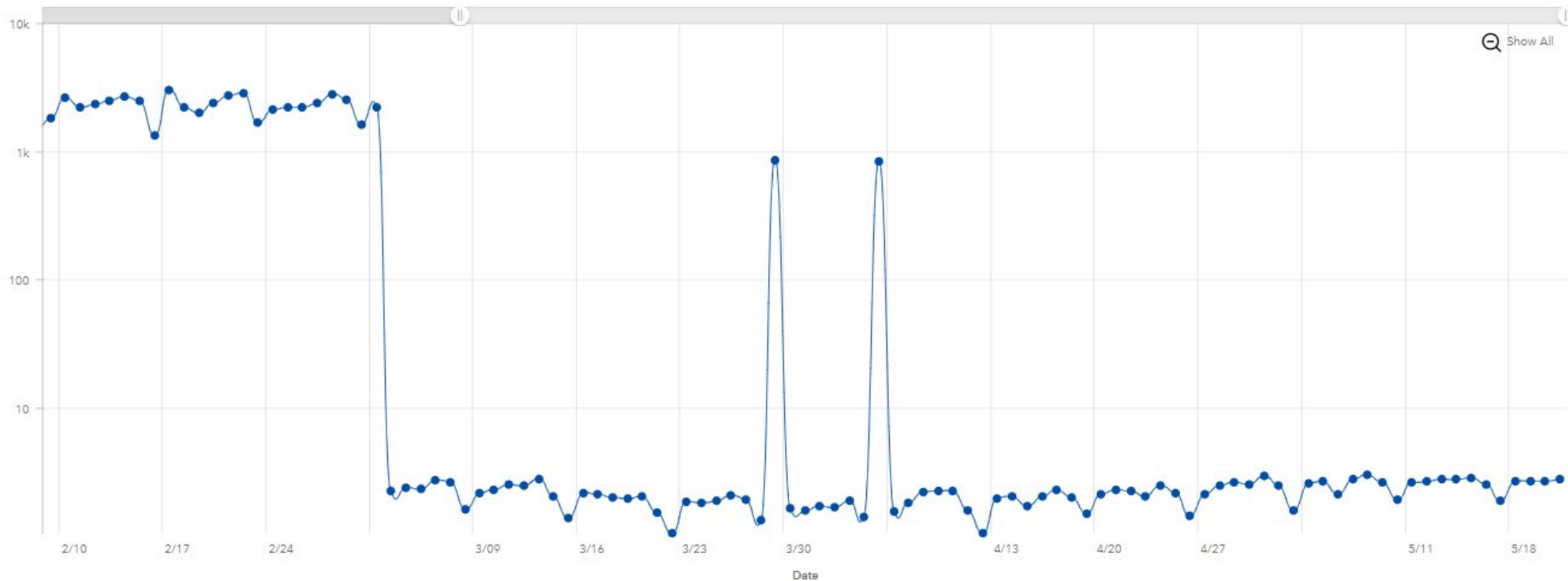
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Traffic Volumes - Madison

Average Daily Traffic Volume from February 10th to May 18th

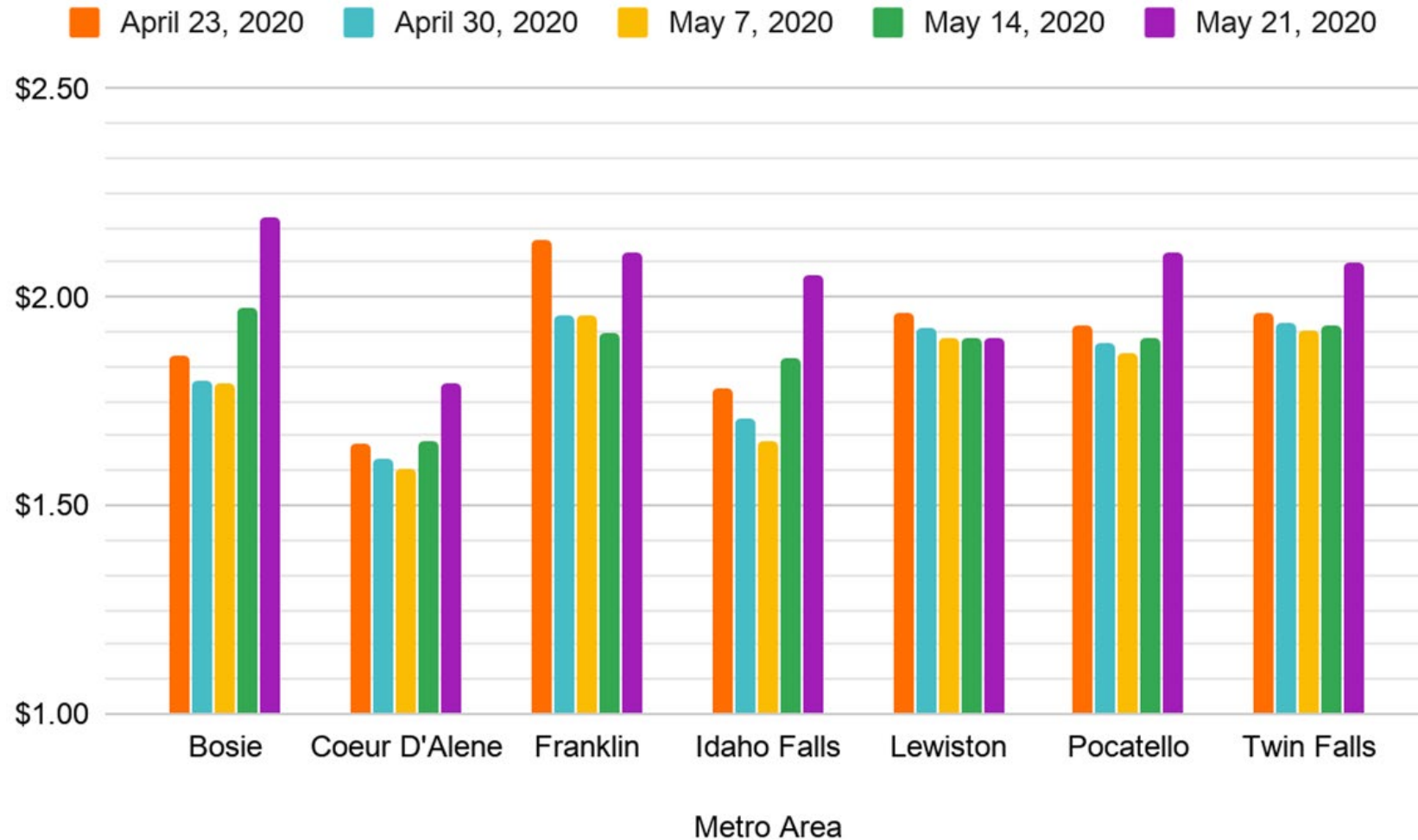
Average Daily Traffic Volumes for 2020



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Idaho Metro Gasoline Prices

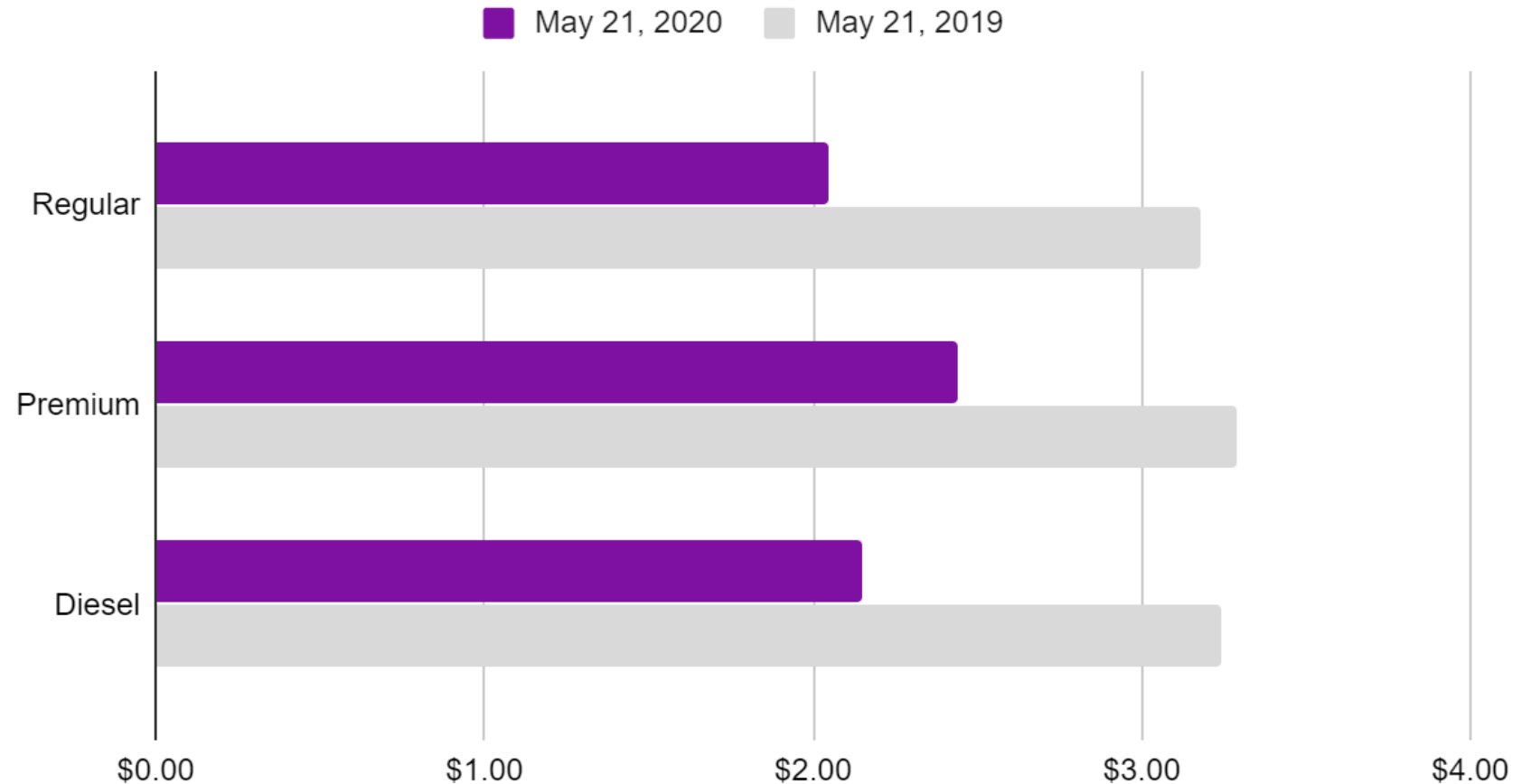


Idaho Metro Gasoline Prices

| | Bosie | | | Idaho Falls | | | Pocatello | | | Twin Falls | | |
|-----------------|--------------|---------|--------|--------------------|---------|--------|------------------|---------|--------|-------------------|---------|--------|
| | Regular | Premium | Diesel | Regular | Premium | Diesel | Regular | Premium | Diesel | Regular | Premium | Diesel |
| May 21, 2020 | \$2.19 | \$2.49 | \$2.42 | \$2.05 | \$2.44 | \$2.15 | \$2.11 | \$2.43 | \$2.59 | \$2.08 | \$2.36 | \$2.45 |
| May 21, 2019 | \$3.27 | \$3.53 | \$3.28 | \$3.18 | \$3.49 | \$3.24 | \$3.19 | \$3.49 | \$3.29 | \$3.23 | \$3.51 | \$3.21 |

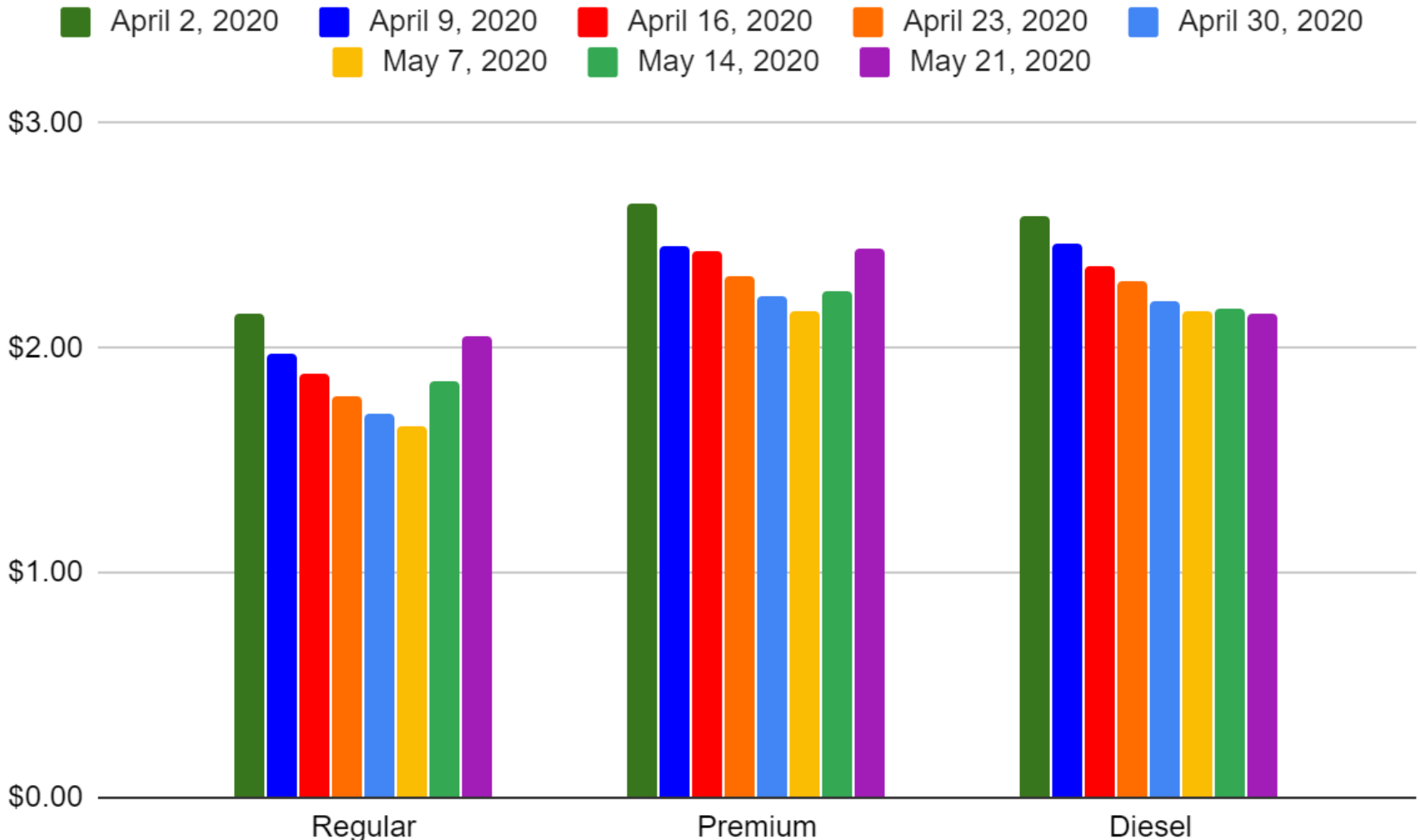
Idaho Falls Gasoline Prices

Idaho Falls Gasoline Price Year Comparison



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

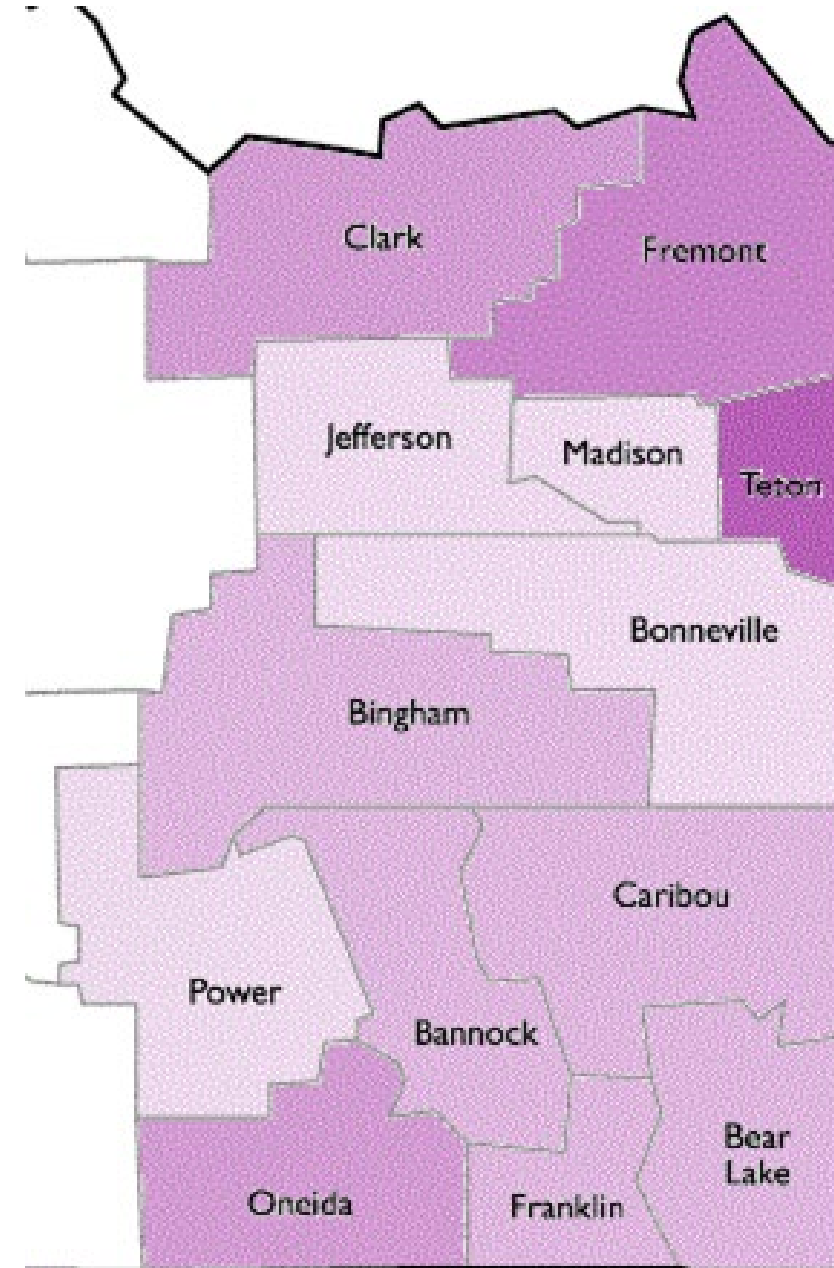
Idaho Falls Gasoline Price



Idaho Counties Gasoline Prices

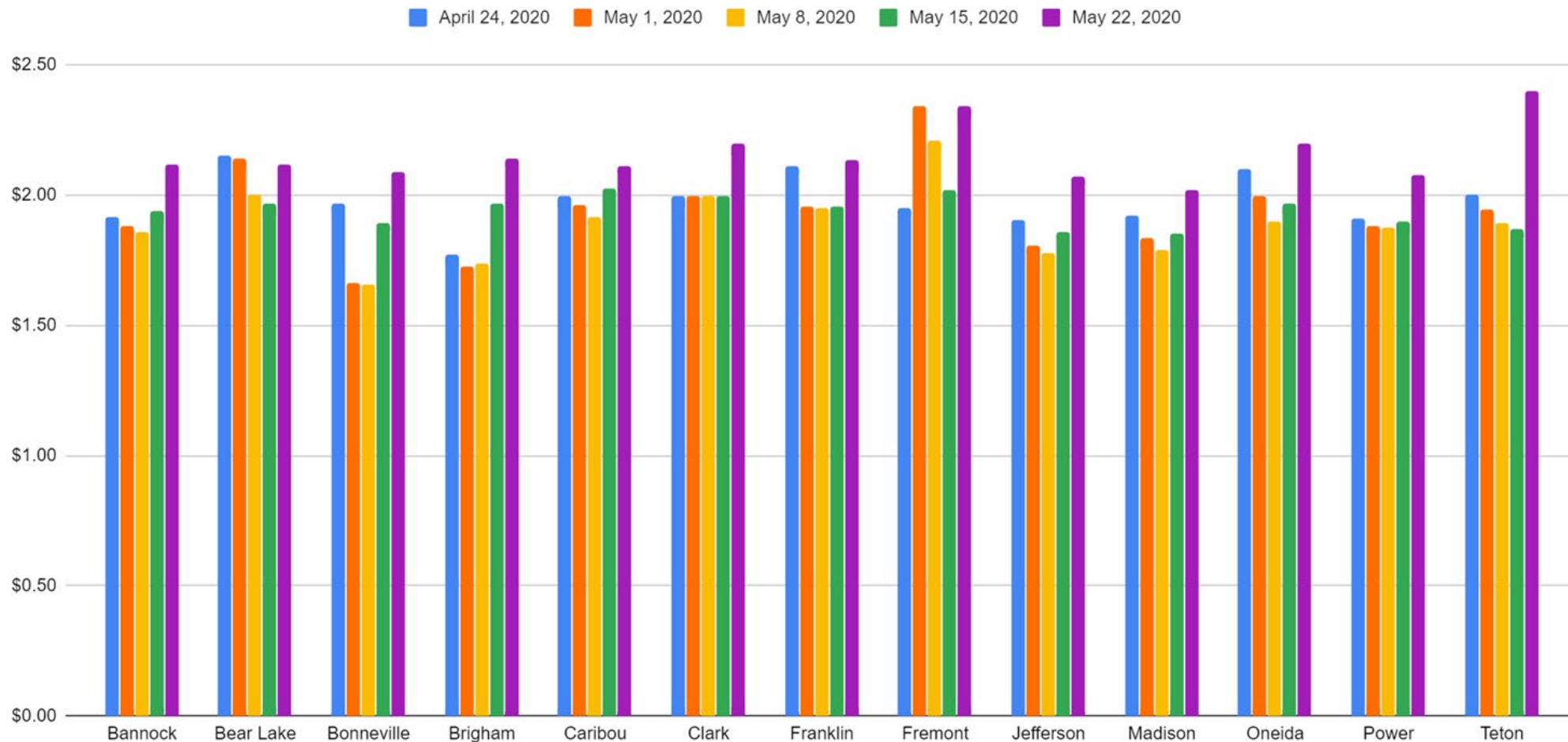
Average Regular Gasoline Prices

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| | \$1.90 - \$1.99 |
| | \$2.00 - \$2.09 |
| | \$2.10 - \$2.19 |
| | \$2.20 - \$2.29 |
| | \$2.30 - \$2.39 |
| | \$2.40 - \$2.49 |
| | \$2.50 - \$2.59 |



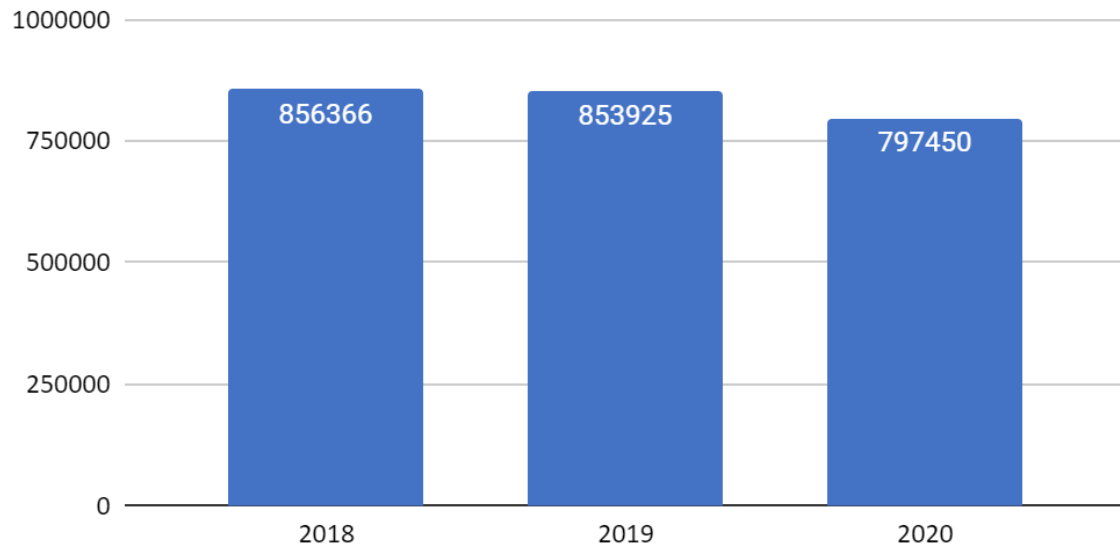
Idaho Counties Gasoline Prices

Regular Gasoline Prices in East Idaho Counties

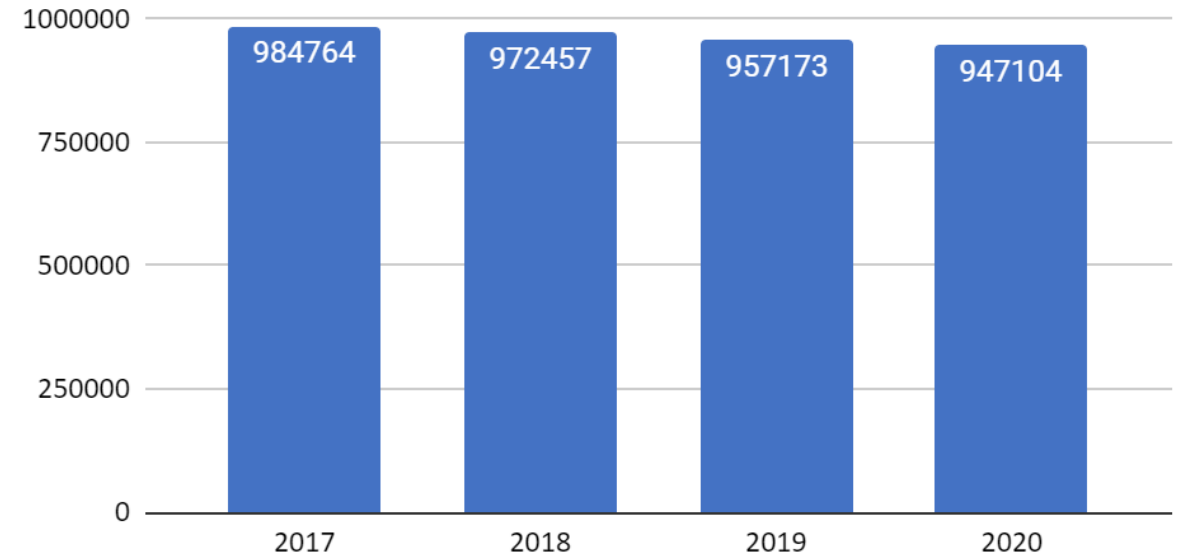


Electricity Demand

PacifiCorp East Weekly Electricity Demand (MWh)
May 15 - May 21



Bonneville Power Administration Weekly Electricity
Demand (MWh) May 15-May 21



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration

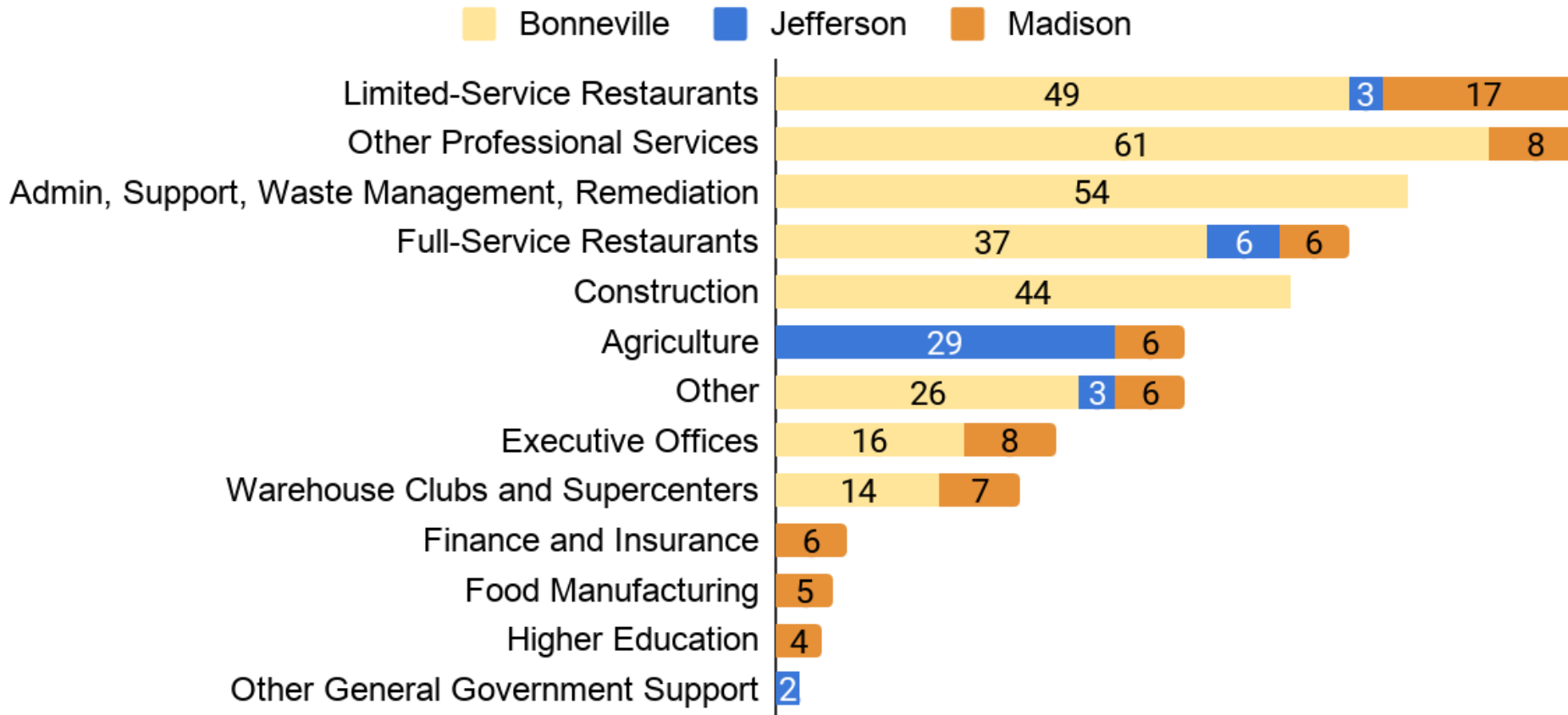
<https://www.eia.gov/beta/electricity/gridmonitor/expanded-view/custom/pending/LatestHourlyUSElectricityDemand-11/edit>

Job Openings Overview

Job Openings in these 3 counties combined account for 10.41% of job openings in Idaho.

Job Openings by Industry

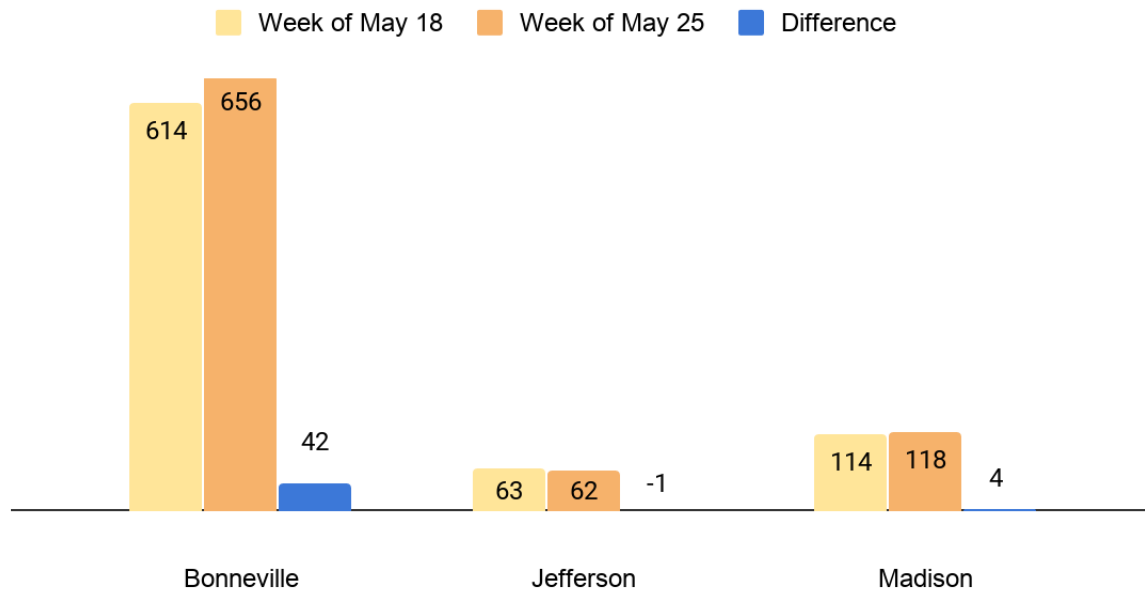
As of May 22, 2020



Job Openings Overview

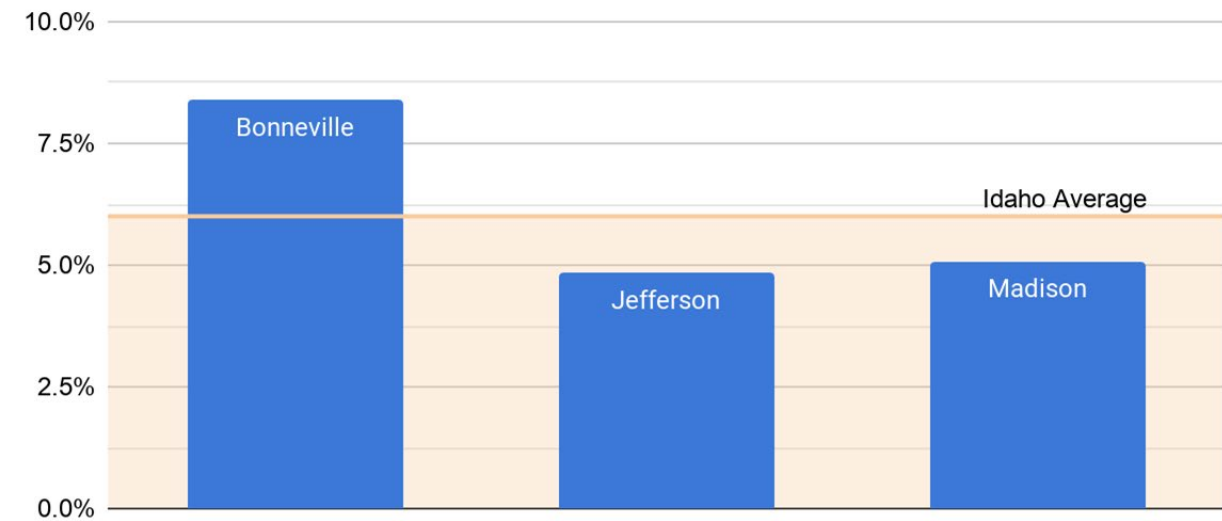
Jobs Openings Comparison by County

As of May 22, 2020



Openings for COVID-19 Essential Jobs as Percentage of Total Openings

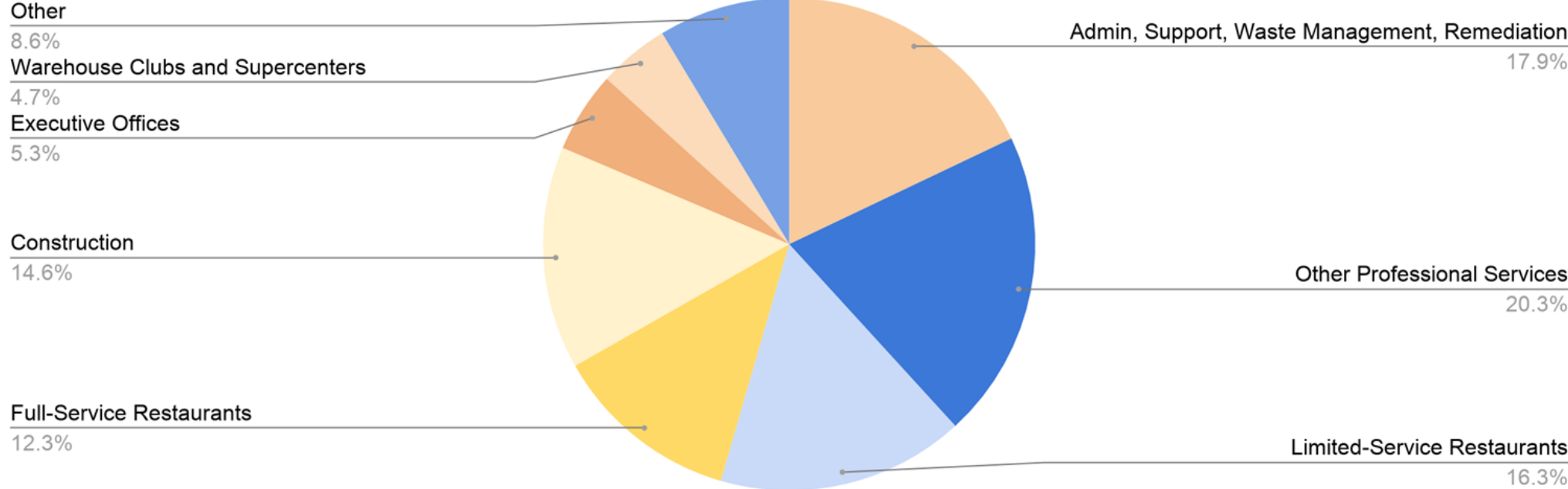
As of May 22, 2020



Job Openings - Bonneville County

Bonneville County Job Openings

As of May 22, 2020



Job Openings - Bonneville County

Latest Job Openings by Employer:

- North Wind Infrastructure and Technology
- [Hospital Corporation of America](#)
- [Idaho National Laboratory](#)
- Air Methods Corporation
- [Progrexion](#)
- C-A-L Stores Companies INC
- Curtiss-Wright Corporation
- Easter Seals Goodwill Northern Rocky Mountain
- Idaho Division of Human Resources
- East Idaho Credit Union
- Avenue5 Residential, LLC
- [Melaleuca](#)
- Waste Connections, Inc
- Duane Reade
- [Good Samaritan Society](#)
- [Jacobs](#)
- Wells Fargo
- [Maverick](#)
- Walgreens***
- TJX
- FleetPride
- Kforce
- [CDM Smith](#)
- Applied Materials
- Petco
- LKQ Corporation
- Sportsman's Warehouse
- BHI Energy
- Idaho Central Credit Union***
- USIC
- System One Services
- Barnes & Noble College Booksellers
- Schneider
- Glacier Bancorp
- Hayden Beverage Company
- Forest Service
- C & B Operations, LLC
- Idaho Youth Ranch
- Big City Insulation of Idaho Inc
- Wood River Media
- Elwood Staffing Services
- Eastern Idaho Community Action Partnership
- [Knife River Corp Mountain West Division***](#)
- Smith & Nephew, Inc.
- MarCom LLC
- [H&K Contractors Inc.***](#)
- [Community Council of Idaho](#)
- HukariAscendent, Inc.
- Citizens Community Bank
- TMC Contractors***
- Edward D. Jones
- T and T Lawn Service***
- Rotech Healthcare Inc.
- Allegheny Science and Technology

***COVID-19 Essential Job

Job Openings - Bonneville County

Older Job Openings:

- Papa John's International
- CROSSMARK
- [Engineering System Solutions](#)
- [Buffalo Wild Wings](#)
- [Sonic Drive-In](#)
- [AutoZone, Inc.](#)
- Grifols Shared Services North America, Inc
- Encompass Home Health***
- [Dominos Pizza***](#)
- [Olive Garden](#)
- Starbucks Coffee Company
- [Pizza Hut](#)
- [Walmart](#)
- FleetPride
- WinCo Foods
- Signature Service
- Western States Equipment Company
- [Pilot Flying J](#)
- Rush Enterprises
- Docutech
- [McDonald's](#)
- NTG Groups, LLC
- Staples
- [Home Depot***](#)
- AdvancedHomeServices
- DownEast Outfitters
- U-Haul
- Natural Grocers
- Elior North America
- University of Utah
- Aaron's Inc

- Love's Travel Stops & Country Stores***
- Anheuser Busch
- Dollar Tree
- Unitek Learning, Inc.
- Citizen Schools
- Panera Bread
- Ross Stores, Inc.
- Kelly Services
- Washington Federal
- Peak Security
- Swift
- Accountable Healthcare Staffing
- Techflow Inc
- GNC
- Arby's
- Bank of America
- BP Americas, Inc.
- Kneaders Bakery & Cafe
- Target***
- UPS***
- Pinnacle Rehab Staffing
- ServiceMaster Family of Brands
- Camping World
- Tradehome Shoes
- BMC - Building Materials and Construction Solution
- LifeCare
- Delta Fire Systems, Inc.
- HEBCO
- Fred Meyer
- Advantage Solutions
- HealthTrust Workforce Solutions
- Massage Envy

- ManTech
- ABF Freight System, Inc***
- Fresenius Medical Care North America
- Invenergy Services Inc.
- Concrete Construction Supply - Meridian***
- Rich Broadcasting
- Admiral Beverage Corporation (Pepsi)
- Fluor Idaho, LLC
- Snow Eagle Brewing and Grill
- American Staffing, Inc.
- Handy M.E. LLC
- Monticello Montessori Charter School
- Beehive Rehabilitation and Counseling***
- [City of Idaho Falls](#)
- Habitat for Humanity Idaho Falls Area
- Idaho Crop Improvement Association
- Morton Buildings, Inc
- [Granite Construction Incorporated](#)
- Western Transport Inc.
- USDA APHIS PPQ PCN Program
- Teton Cleaners & Laundry
- Enercon Services Inc
- DC Electric Inc.***
- Idaho Department of Labor
- BMPC
- Prestige Care, Inc.
- Panda Restaurant Group, Inc.
- Intermountain Erectors, Inc.
- Burns Concrete, Inc.
- Novitex
- Eagle Rock Timber, Inc.***
- PAE Aviation and Technical Services LLC

- KM Service Company LLC
- Valley Glass LLC***
- XL Hospice, Inc.***
- North Wind Portage Inc
- Stewards of Recovery
- Triple G Excavating
- State Trailer Supply
- Tueller Counseling
- International Isotopes of Idaho Inc
- Tri State Roofing
- Cable One
- Senior Care
- [TRC Fabrication LLC](#)
- American Fabrication, Inc.
- Bonneville County
- Elite Health Care

***COVID-19 Essential Job

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

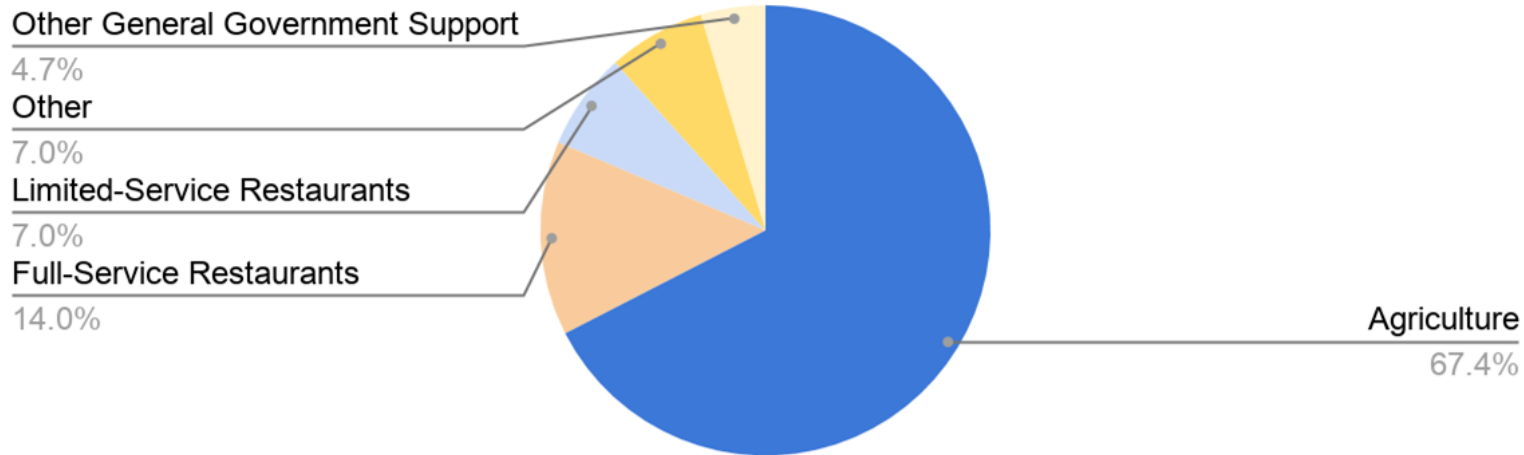
Source: [Idaho Department of Labor](#)



Job Openings - Jefferson County

Jefferson County Job Openings

As of May 22, 2020



Latest Job Openings by Employer:

- Fedex Ground
- [AdvancedHomeServices](#)

Older Job Openings:

- Dollar Tree
- [Pizza Hut](#)
- Dominos Pizza***
- DL Evans Bank
- Nelson Electric LLC***
- Alvarez Trucking LLC
- Tueller Counseling

***COVID-19 Essential Job

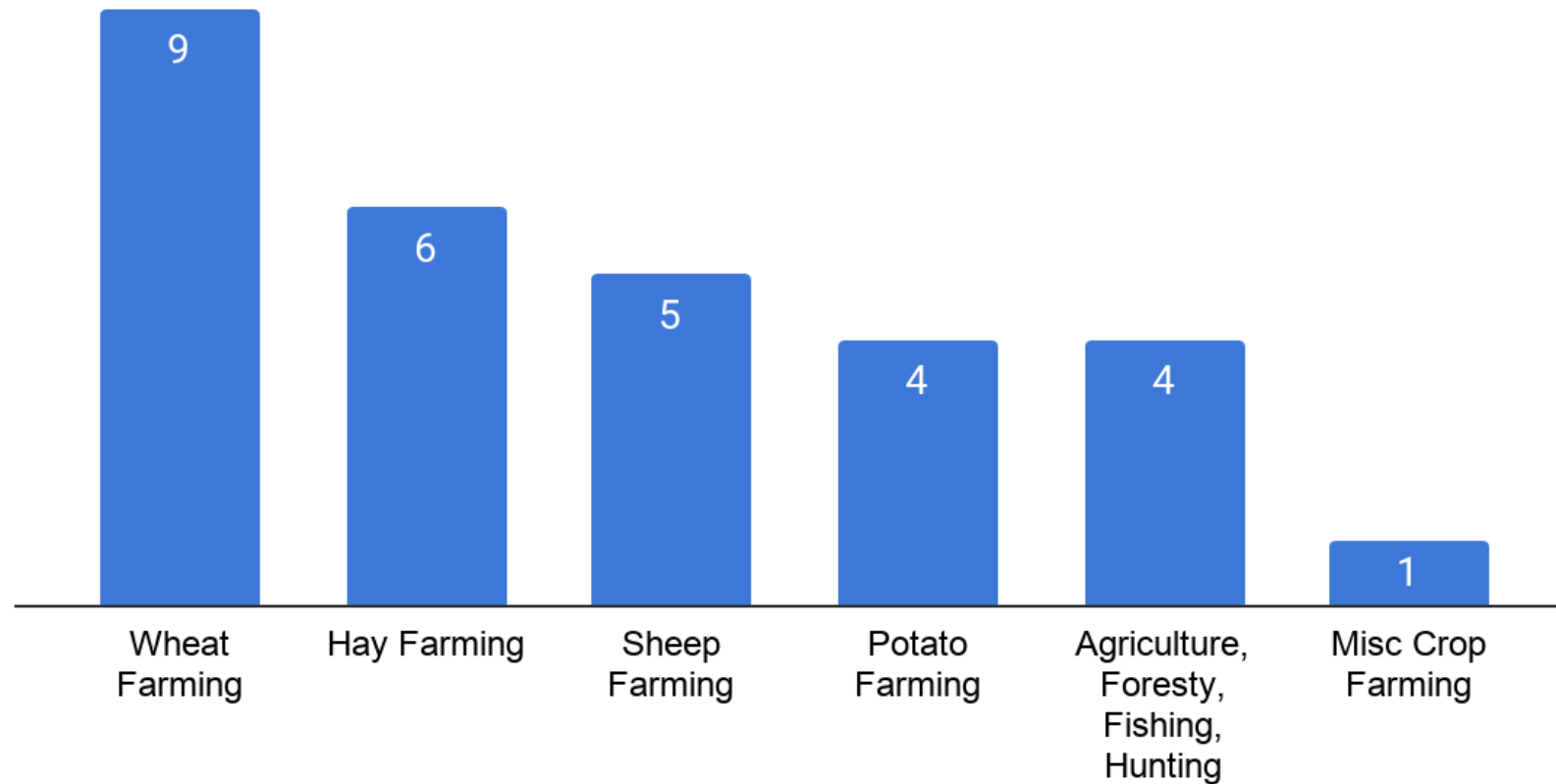
Companies listed in blue have 6 or more job offerings

Source: [Idaho Department of Labor](#)



Jefferson County - Agricultural Breakdown

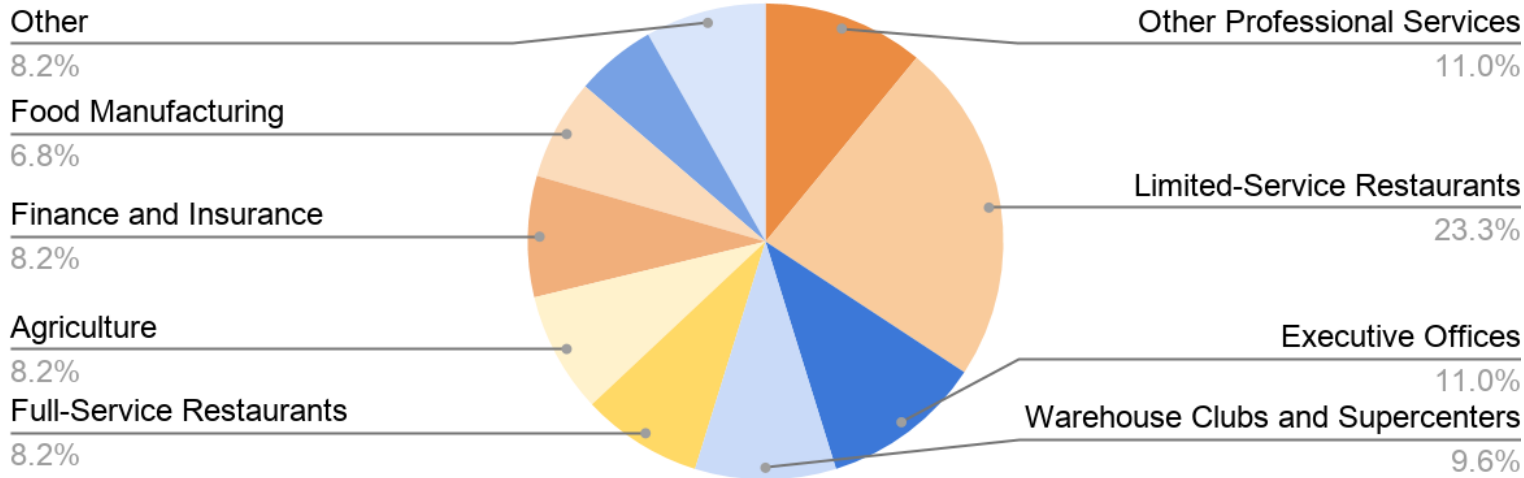
Agriculture Segment Breakdown



Job Openings - Madison County

Madison County Job Openings

As of May 22, 2020



***COVID-19 Essential Job

Companies listed in blue have 6 or more job offerings

Source: [Idaho Department of Labor](https://www.idaholabor.com/)

Latest Job Openings by Employer:

- [Progrexion](#)
- Admiral Beverage Corporation (Pepsi)
- Idaho Central Credit Union
- [Melaleuca](#)
- Idaho Division of Human Resources
- Maverik
- [McDonald's](#)
- Walgreens***
- Applied Materials
- Zollinger Construction
- BYU-Idaho
- Thompson Excavation & Asphalt, Inc.

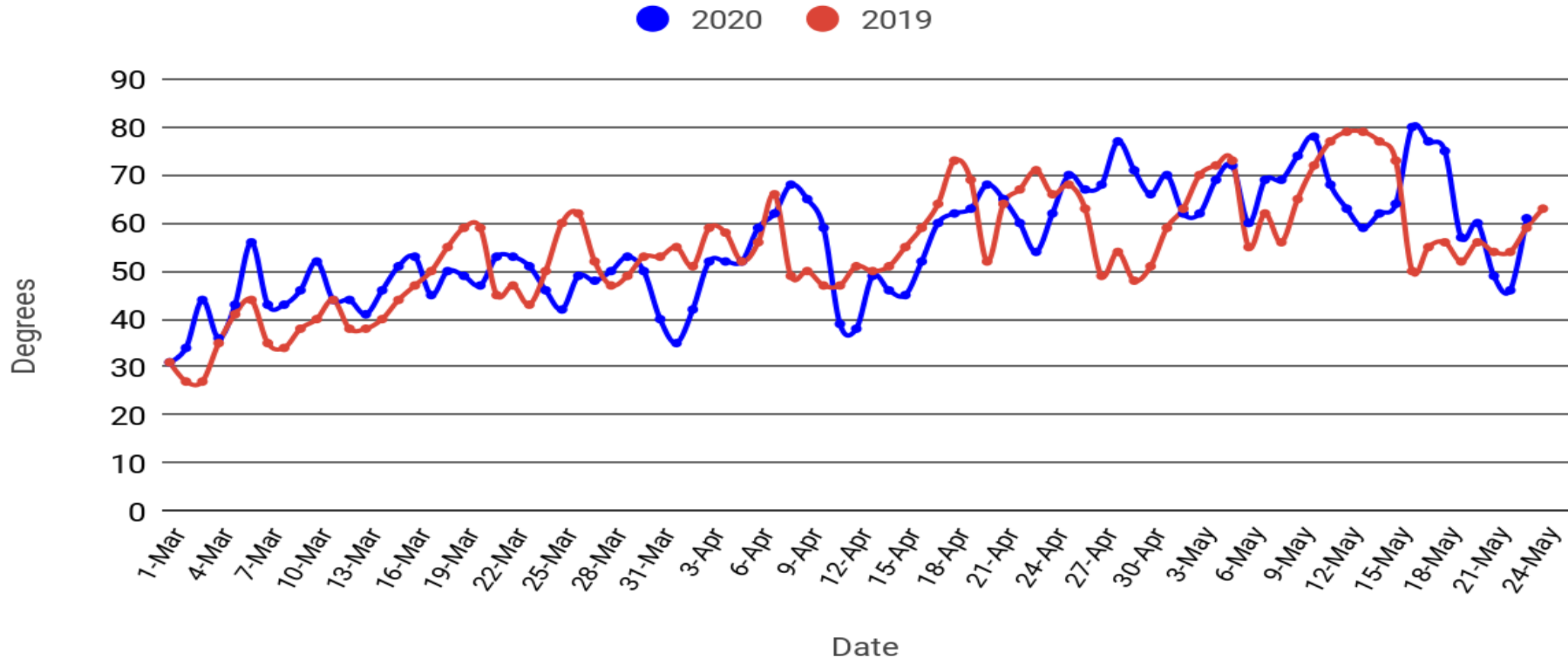
Older Job Openings:

- Papa John's International
- [Sonic Drive-In](#)
- [AutoZone, Inc.](#)
- Dominos Pizza***
- [Pizza Hut](#)
- [Walmart](#)
- BMC - Building Materials and Construction Solution
- Lawrence Merchandising Services
- C & B Operations, LLC
- Grifols Shared Services North America, Inc
- UPS***
- USIC
- America First Credit Union
- Prime Communications
- NTG Groups, LLC
- [Beehive FCU](#)
- [Basic American Foods](#)
- High Country Potato
- Norco, Inc.
- Western Fence, Inc.
- Panda Restaurant Group, Inc.
- Floyd Wilcox & Sons Inc
- Creative Design Landscaping
- Teton Turf and Tree Farms



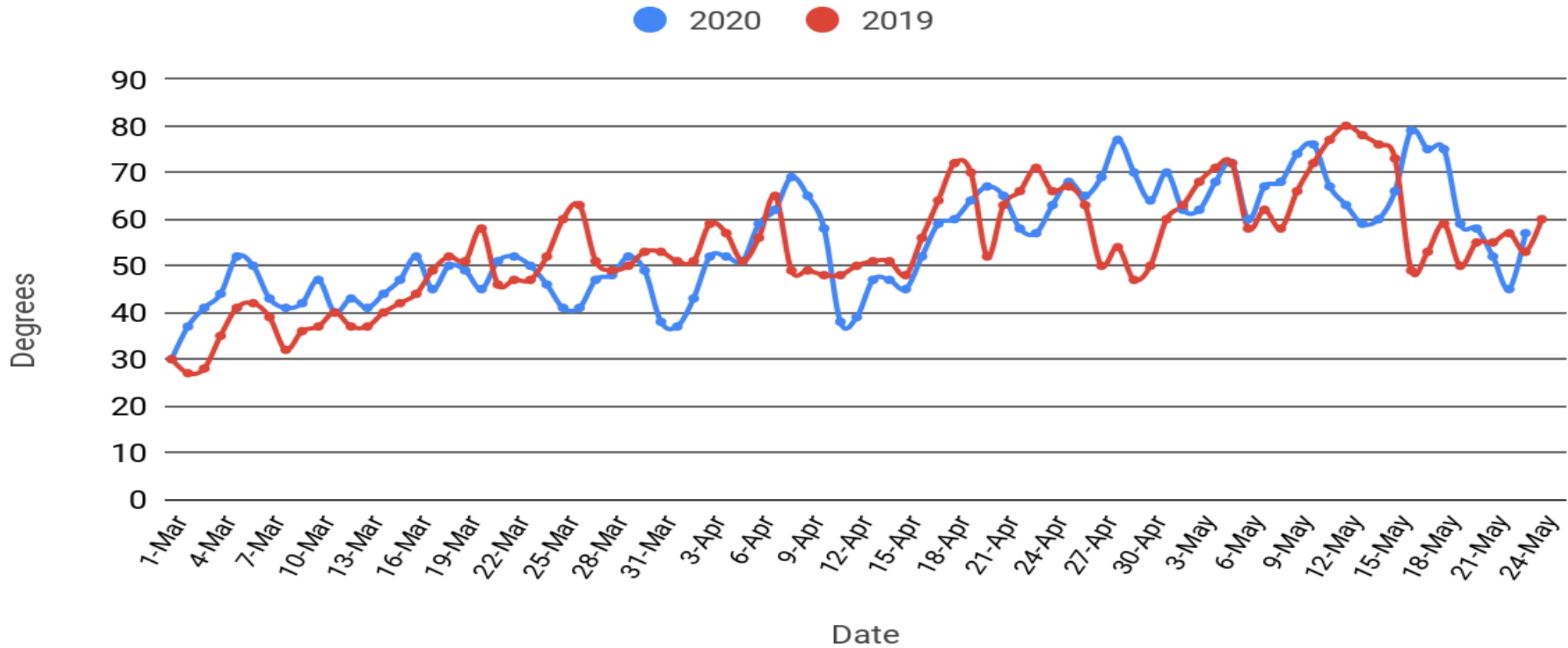
Idaho Falls Weather

Idaho Falls



Rexburg Weather

Rexburg



https://www.accuweather.com/en/us/idaho_falls/83404/may-weather/328732?year=2019



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