

**INSTRUCTIONS AND QUESTIONS TO ASSIST THOSE MAKING
PRESENTATIONS TO THE ECONOMIC OUTLOOK AND REVENUE
ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE**

January 7, 8, and 15, 2009

We are grateful for your willingness to appear before our committee, and thank you for your commitment to our state and its citizens. The most important part of the committee's mission is to make an overall assessment of Idaho's economic outlook and the General Fund revenues for FY 2009 and FY 2010. In order to help guide your presentation to key areas of committee interest, please be prepared to address the questions in the second group, below, which are specific to your field of expertise. The first group of general questions may be ignored if it is outside your area of expertise.

General Questions

1. How will the Idaho economy perform in the remainder of FY 2009 (January 2009 to June 2009) and FY 2010 (July 2009 to June 2010), and what impact will this likely have on state tax revenues?
2. How will the national economy perform in the remainder of FY 2009 (January 2009 to June 2009) and FY 2010 (July 2009 to June 2010), and how will this affect Idaho?
3. What areas of the economy will be strong over the next 18 months? Which areas will be weak?
4. Do you know of any companies that are planning on moving operations into or out of Idaho in the next 18 months?
5. What policies should Idaho follow to promote economic growth and higher wages?

Specific Questions

1. What is the unemployment status in Idaho compared to the nation?
2. Idaho's unemployment rate has tended to run below the national average. Is this trend likely to continue over the next 18 months?
3. What geographical areas and industries of the state are experiencing the worst unemployment?
4. What trends are you seeing in new unemployment claims? What do you expect to see in this area over the next 18 months? Please estimate and trend unemployment fund balances for the next 18 months. What changes are anticipated in the unemployment insurance rates?
5. Describe the nature and quality of the jobs Idaho has lost and gained over the last three years (high or low paying, high or low tech, manufacturing or service sector).
6. To what extent is our economic success dependent on significant levels of activity in the construction sector?