

Idaho First Briefing

2nd QUARTER 2023

CEO UPDATE



Welcome to the midpoint of 2023, a time of year when many of us are busy trying to schedule some time off and enjoy the summer weather. It's also a busy period for our team here at Idaho First Bank. Despite ongoing uncertain economic headlines, we remain grateful for the markets and communities we serve. For instance, one recent headline was the Federal Reserve pausing on rate increases in June, but indicating that further increases are likely due to stubborn inflation.

From a local economy perspective, our primary markets continue to experience the benefits of net migration, which is driving sustained economic growth.

This is one of the reasons why we consider ourselves fortunate to live and work in one of the best markets in the country.

Many customers inquire about the implications of these news updates and what steps they can take to prepare for a potential economic slowdown. While I cannot predict the future, there are proactive measures that businesses and households can adopt. For business owners, most expense categories have increased, putting pressure on profit margins. The largest increases can be attributed to rising input costs, salary expenses, and borrowing costs. It's important to assess the precise impact of these changes, adjust pricing where possible, and reduce expenses in areas where feasible to safeguard margins.

If your business extends credit to other businesses for products or services sold, now is an opportune time to check in with your credit customers. They are likely facing similar margin pressures, and lengthening payables is one way they compensate for shrinking margins. This behavior is common during a tightening cycle, but it can also serve as an early indicator of profitability challenges your customers may be experiencing, which could impact the collectability of receivables. Maintaining close relationships with your customers is always a best practice.

Both businesses and households should aim to build reserves as the best defense against economic slowdowns. Fortunately, deposit rates currently offer returns that haven't been seen in a long time. If you have excess cash in reserve, let's discuss how we can put that money to work for you.

Every business and consumer is at a unique stage in their financial journey. Our team of skilled bankers is always available to sit down and have a personalized conversation about your specific goals and how Idaho First Bank can serve as a valuable partner in achieving them. I understand that it's a busy time of year, but investing a few minutes to speak with your banker about your plans will be time well spent.

Enjoy all the wonderful experiences our region has to offer this summer, and as always, thank you for choosing Idaho First Bank as your trusted financial institution!

-Todd Cooper, CEO

CUSTOMER RESOURCES

Idaho renters struggle to keep up with costs, as rent costs continue to increase



BOISE, Idaho — Rent is expensive and renters across the state cannot keep up; but if you're one of those renters, there is help.

According to Zillow, in Idaho since 2020, rent has gone up an average of \$474.46! That's a 41 percent increase in three years. That ranks Idaho fourth in the nation for the biggest increase in that span. That's even with rent going down a little in the past few months.

Let's focus on Boise, where median monthly rent is more than \$1,800. That works out to \$22,104 every year. That's a major burden when you consider that the median individual income is just \$33,548.

[Read the full article here](#)



PEOPLE **FIRST**

Team Member Spotlight

Please join us in welcoming the newest additions to our team!

Jessie Benner

Teller II, Bend

James Murray

Teller I, Boise

Meagan Williams

Teller I, McCall

Andy Mitchell

Loan Ops Specialist II

Jennifer Anderson

Teller I, Boise



COMMUNITY **FIRST**

We recently participated in a grant matching program with the FHLB Member Impact Grant to bring more affordable housing through NeighborWorks.



NeighborWorks is a nonprofit whose mission is to create innovative housing solutions for underserved populations through strategic partnerships that contribute to building stronger communities.

COMMUNITY FIRST

Eagle Community Food Bank

When state funding for social workers in Meridian (now West Ada) School District was eliminated in 1997, school counselors and resources officers joined together to identify families in need and provided them with food assistance. By 2002, their efforts grew into a fully functioning foodbank. In 2013, Eagle Community Food Bank incorporated as a 501(c)(3) charity to support the residents of Eagle.



Sponsorship And Donation Opportunities

Do you know a nonprofit that needs a sponsorship or donation? At Idaho First, we support various organizations that are serving Idaho people and communities. This year in particular, we are supporting nonprofits that focus on:

Affordable Housing
Health & Safety
Education

[Apply for a sponsorship or donation](#)

BANK **UPDATES**

Nominated as a Boise Chamber Finalist for Best Financial Institution 2023

We are honored to have been a finalist for the Boise Chamber Best Financial Institution Award of 2023.

We are humbled to be recognized alongside such esteemed peers in the financial industry. It serves as a reminder of the hard work and effort our team puts in day in and day out to exceed expectations and continue to put people and community first!



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BANK UPDATES

Introducing Finance First

A blog by IFB

We are excited to bring a financial blog to our website "Finance First." Our blog will focus on these subjects:

Money Habits

Savings

Small Business

Credit Wellness

Life Milestones

Community

[To read our latest
blog click here](#)

The Idaho First Difference

We're here to help you thrive. Bank with Idaho First where your money stays local and our experienced bankers know your name.

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Our mailing address is:
475 Deinhard Lane, McCall, ID 83638