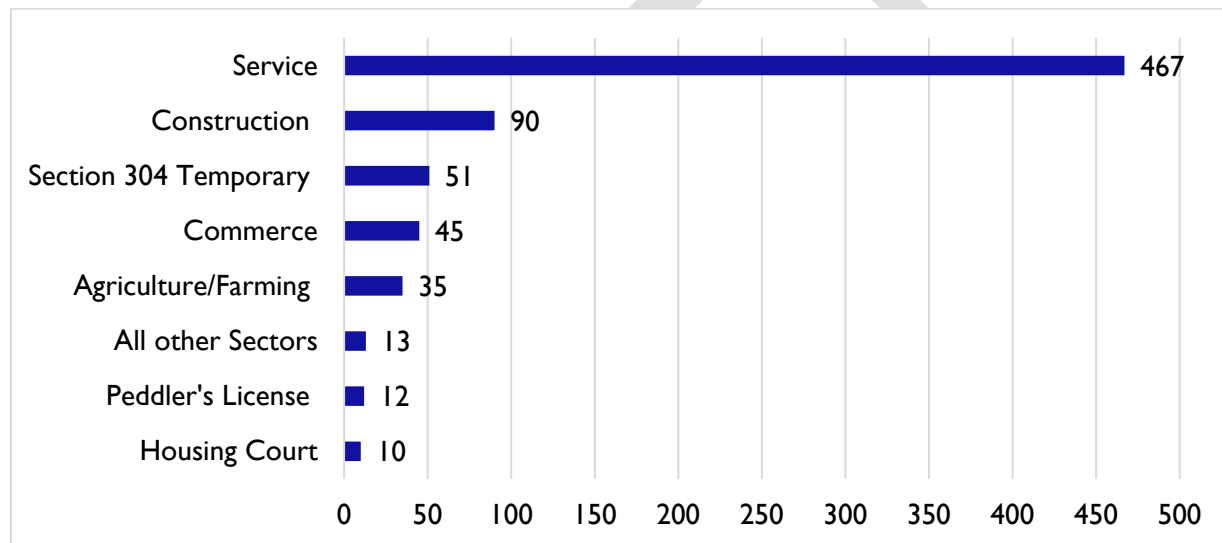


Small Business Development

As of July 2016, there were 731 business licenses granted to individuals and corporations to operate and perform business on the Fort Hall Indian Reservation. Sixty-three percent of all licenses granted fell into the service sector which includes retail and restaurant sales, distribution, technical services, contracting services, and small scale production and manufacturing of goods (Figure 16). The second largest license category was construction with 12.3 percent, followed by 4.7 percent were for agricultural and farming operations. Of the 731 licenses granted by the Tribes, 128 (17.5 percent) were given to tribal member economic enterprises. 71 of the licenses were listed as originating from residents of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation.

Figure 16: Fort Hall Indian Reservation Business Licenses by Sector, 2016



Source: Shoshone-Bannock Tribes Business License Department, 2016

Workforce Participation and Characteristics

Between 2009 and 2014 an average of 37.7 percent of Fort Hall Indian Reservation residents were full-time workforce participants, working between 50 to 52 weeks a year (one-year of working full time). A slightly higher percentage, 38.1 percent, did not participate in the workforce at all.

Workforce participation on the Fort Hall Indian Reservation is significantly lower than that of the surrounding counties, the state of Idaho, and the nation, all of which averaged a full-time workforce participation rate between 53 to 62 percent (Figure 17). Workforce participation is a calculation of the proportion of the population eligible for work that is employed full-time or part-time. A lower rate of full-time employment can impact a population's income potential, overall standards of living and can have long term effects on workforce development and future employment opportunities.¹¹

¹¹ Hall, Robert, and Nicolas Pertosky-Nadeau. Changes in Labor Participation and Household Income. Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco. 2016. <http://www.frbsf.org/economic-research/publications/economic-letter/2016/february/labor-force-participation-and-household-income/> "For most people, active participation in the labor market is socially desirable for several reasons. One major benefit is the set of skills and abilities a person gains on the job. Long periods out of employment can mean a worker loses valuable skills. In terms of the overall labor force, this loss is compounded, lowering the accumulation of human capital and negatively