

NEWS RELEASE

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Urban Counties Claim Bulk of Idaho's 2014 Population Gain

Idaho's population shift to urban areas continued in 2014 as nearly 85 percent of the state's population growth occurred in Idaho urban counties, new estimates released Thursday by the U.S. Census Bureau showed.

Over 18,000 of the nearly 22,000 population increase statewide was in nine of those urban counties - Ada, Boise, Canyon, Gem, Kootenai, Nez Perce, Bannock, Bonneville, and Jefferson - a 1.7 percent population gain from mid-2013 to mid-2014. There were fractional population losses in the other two urban counties - Owyhee and Butte - but not enough to change the overall increase. That put 65.7 percent of the state's 1.63 million people in metropolitan statistical areas as designated by the federal Office of Management and Budget.

Idaho's urban counties had 65.4 percent of the population in 2013 and under 61 percent in 1999.

The five-county Boise metro area accounted for the bulk of the growth with a 2.1 percent increase based on the strength of over 2 percent growth in both Ada and Canyon counties. The smaller Coeur d'Alene metro area also grew 2.1 percent. Three other metro areas - Lewiston, Pocatello and Idaho Falls - posted gains of less than 1 percent.

Statewide population was up 1.3 percent, the ninth strongest gain in the nation.

Valley County showed the largest population gain, where growth hit a 2.5 percent rebound after the resort county's population dropped from over 10,000 in 2008 to 9,500 in 2012 following the bankruptcy of Tamarack Resort. Valley County saw fractional growth in 2013.

In addition to Butte and Owyhee counties, nine other counties experienced population declines in 2014. The worst - 2.3 percent - was in Shoshone County, where the population has fallen six of the past seven years. Custer County also recorded a decline of more than 2 percent. The birth rates in those counties were not enough to offset the fact that more people moved out than moved in.

Another 14 counties also recorded more people moving out than moving in, but their birth rates were high enough to offset the outmigration.

Twenty counties saw population losses in 2013, the largest at 3.5 percent in Butte County.

Five counties - Boise, Clearwater, Idaho, Lemhi and Shoshone - recorded fewer births than deaths. All five have median ages over 46 and rank among the nine oldest counties in Idaho.

Twenty-five of the 44 counties - including population centers in Idaho Falls and Pocatello - saw more people move out than move in in 2014, but the outmigration was more than offset by immigration of over 13,000 people to the other 19 counties.

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Idaho 2014 Population Components By County

	Population	Change from 2013	Births	Deaths	Net Migration
State	1,634,464	1.3%	22,945	11,628	9,389
Ada	426,236	2.3%	5,124	2,563	6,651
Adams	3,861	0.8%	29	20	18
Bannock	83,347	0.0%	1,261	629	-565
Bear Lake	5,957	0.3%	92	59	-11
Benewah	9,118	0.8%	117	104	53
Bingham	45,269	-0.3%	760	308	-578
Blaine	21,482	0.8%	223	87	40
Boise	6,824	1.2%	39	52	95
Bonner	41,585	2.2%	403	368	785
Bonneville	108,623	1.0%	1,950	764	-126
Boundary	10,979	1.0%	120	118	113
Butte	2,622	-0.2%	26	12	-31
Camas	1,039	0.0%	10	3	-17
Canyon	203,143	2.1%	3,202	1,321	2,032
Caribou	6,837	0.1%	93	63	-19
Cassia	23,540	0.8%	391	168	-22
Clark	867	0.7%	8	1	-6
Clearwater	8,562	-0.5%	74	96	-21
Custer	4,140	-2.2%	33	26	-101
Elmore	26,094	-0.2%	441	174	-338
Franklin	13,021	1.3%	205	80	55
Fremont	12,867	-0.3%	192	94	-139
Gem	16,866	1.0%	209	182	148
Gooding	15,064	-0.2%	197	112	-113
Idaho	16,215	0.1%	157	168	24
Jefferson	27,021	0.6%	491	139	-193
Jerome	22,818	0.9%	407	148	-41
Kootenai	147,326	2.1%	1,745	1,242	2,182
Latah	38,411	0.5%	455	209	-50
Lemhi	7,726	0.0%	59	72	16
Lewis	3,838	0.3%	39	32	6
Lincoln	5,316	0.2%	79	38	-38
Madison	38,038	1.2%	1,059	111	-493
Minidoka	20,323	0.1%	361	168	-184

Nez Perce	40,007	0.2%	506	463	61
Oneida	4,184	-2.0%	49	33	-108
Owyhee	11,353	-0.6%	147	80	-133
Payette	22,836	1.1%	310	187	130
Power	7,617	-1.0%	136	55	-160
Shoshone	12,390	-2.3%	131	165	-270
Teton	10,341	0.4%	162	28	-91
Twin Falls	80,914	1.3%	1,253	732	558
Valley	9,826	2.5%	89	57	209
Washington	10,021	0.7%	111	97	61

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

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