

NEWS RELEASE

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A Quarter of Idaho's Cities Lost Population in 2009

Fifty-two of Idaho's 200 cities lost population between mid-2008 and mid-2009, up from the 45 posting losses in 2008 but still well below the number of cities that experienced population losses following the 2001 recession.

The U.S. Census Bureau on Tuesday estimated the total population of Idaho's incorporated cities on July 1, 2009 at 1,056,669, an increase of just under 1.3 percent from July 1, 2008. The population outside those 200 cities rose just 1 percent to almost 490,000. Statewide population grew a recession-slowed 1.2 percent, the smallest annual population gain since the 2000 census.

Although a quarter of Idaho cities posted population declines, those losses were limited. The largest was 84 in Mountain Home, which at more than 12,000 was the largest city and the only one over 10,000 to suffer a decline. The cumulative loss for the 52 cities was just 695.

That compared to 90 cities that lost a cumulative total of nearly 1,500 between mid-2001 and mid-2002 during the last recession and its initial aftermath. Another 16 had no growth.

Possibly the biggest difference between the two recessionary periods in terms of mobility was housing. Residential real estate essentially held its value during and after the 2001 recession while the implosion of the housing market that led to the current recession depressed values, in many cases below mortgage levels, leaving a surplus of homes hanging over the market and making it financially difficult if not impossible for people to move.

Twenty-three cities that lost people from mid-2007 to mid-2008 showed population increases from mid-2008 to mid-2009 despite the recession deepening in Idaho during those 12 months. The other 22 that lost population in 2008 lost more in 2009 and were joined by 30 cities that posted declines after seeing population rise during the initial months of the recession that began in December 2007.

The largest increase was in Meridian, which grew more than 2,100 or 3.2 percent and remained the state's third largest city behind Boise and Nampa.

The only change in the top 10 cities was marked by Idaho Falls gaining nearly 1,000 people to become the fourth largest city, passing Pocatello, which gained fewer than 100 to settle in fifth.

Population of Idaho Cities, 2009 and 2008

	2009	Rank by Change	Change from 2008	Growth from 2008	2008	Rank by Change	Change from 2007	Growth from 2007
Idaho	1,545,801	—	18,295	1.20%	1,527,506	—	28,26	1.89%
Aberdeen	1,775	66	14	0.80%	1,761	167	-2	-0.11%
Acequia	140	105	3	2.19%	137	129	1	0.74%

Albion	260	102	3	1.17%	257	99	5	1.98%	
American Falls	4,093	157	-2	-0.05%	4,095	109	4	0.10%	
Ammon	13,942	13	314	2.30%	13,628	9	788	6.14%	
Arco	989	173	-6	-0.60%	995	117	3	0.30%	
Arimo	337	70	13	4.01%	324	87	8	2.53%	
Ashton	1,089	109	2	0.18%	1,087	194	- 12	-1.09%	
Athol	688	98	3	0.44%	685	175	- 3	-0.44%	
Atomic	25	146	0	0.00%	25	146	0	0.00%	
Bancroft	349	92	4	1.16%	345	169	- 2	-0.58%	
Basalt	425	91	4	0.95%	421	119	2	0.48%	
Bellevue	2,229	65	14	0.63%	2,215	60	22	1.00%	
Blackfoot	11,153	19	147	1.34%	11,006	22	169	1.56%	
Bliss	250	166	-3	-1.19%	253	153	0	0.00%	
Bloomington	224	167	-3	-1.32%	227	125	2	0.89%	
Boise	205,707	4	929	0.45%	204,778	2	2,212	1.09%	
Bonners Ferry	2,567	193	-29	-1.12%	2,596	199	- 44	-1.67%	
Bovill	300	124	1	0.33%	299	76	13	4.55%	
Buhl	4,109	52	21	0.51%	4,088	36	46	1.14%	
Burley	9,252	29	80	0.87%	9,172	23	162	1.80%	
Butte	72	154	-1	-1.37%	73	149	0	0.00%	
Caldwell	43,281	2	986	2.33%	42,295	1	2,568	6.46%	
Cambridge	374	122	1	0.27%	373	57	23	6.57%	
Carey	538	59	17	3.26%	521	78	12	2.36%	
Cascade	972	194	-32	-3.19%	1,004	178	- 3	-0.30%	
Castleford	274	125	1	0.37%	273	131	1	0.37%	
Challis	956	58	17	1.81%	939	59	22	2.40%	
Chubbuck	12,483	10	563	4.72%	11,920	13	355	3.07%	
Clark Fork	583	158	-2	-0.34%	585	115	3	0.52%	
Clayton	27	135	1	3.85%	26	142	0	0.00%	
Clifton	239	127	1	0.42%	238	100	5	2.15%	
Coeur d'Alene	43,805	6	719	1.67%	43,086	7	1,083	2.58%	
Cottonwood	1,033	76	9	0.88%	1,024	183	- 5	-0.49%	

Council	678	185	-14	-2.02%	692	190	- 7	-1.00%	
Craigmont	540	69	13	2.47%	527	127	1	0.19%	
Crouch	160	171	-4	-2.44%	164	173	- 2	-1.20%	
Culdesac	379	112	2	0.53%	377	170	- 2	-0.53%	
Dalton Gardens	2,392	63	15	0.63%	2,377	98	5	0.21%	
Dayton	444	111	2	0.45%	442	107	4	0.91%	
Deary	564	119	1	0.18%	563	48	28	5.23%	
Declo	332	93	4	1.22%	328	94	6	1.86%	
Dietrich	166	131	1	0.61%	165	122	2	1.23%	
Donnelly	139	172	-5	-3.47%	144	177	- 3	-2.04%	
Dover	503	150	-1	-0.20%	504	124	2	0.40%	
Downey	592	50	23	4.04%	569	85	9	1.61%	
Driggs	1,439	38	31	2.20%	1,408	32	73	5.47%	
Drummond	14	156	-1	-6.67%	15	150	0	0.00%	
Dubois	643	177	-10	-1.53%	653	64	19	3.00%	
Eagle	19,668	14	271	1.40%	19,397	18	218	1.14%	
East Hope	218	151	-1	-0.46%	219	134	1	0.46%	
Eden	416	84	6	1.46%	410	105	4	0.99%	
Elk River	133	162	-2	-1.48%	135	172	- 2	-1.46%	
Emmett	6,287	192	-27	-0.43%	6,314	53	24	0.38%	
Fairfield	417	170	-4	-0.95%	421	102	5	1.20%	
Ferdinand	148	104	3	2.07%	145	113	3	2.11%	
Fernan Lake Village	183	130	1	0.55%	182	159	- 1	-0.55%	
Filer	2,227	33	55	2.53%	2,172	34	66	3.13%	
Firth	493	90	4	0.82%	489	118	2	0.41%	
Franklin	691	55	20	2.98%	671	77	12	1.82%	
Fruitland	4,774	45	25	0.53%	4,749	29	118	2.55%	
Garden	11,891	23	102	0.87%	11,789	21	173	1.49%	
Genesee	914	110	2	0.22%	912	41	36	4.11%	
Georgetown	464	165	-3	-0.64%	467	182	- 4	-0.85%	
Glenns Ferry	1,368	196	-34	-2.43%	1,402	195	- 15	-1.06%	

Gooding	3,209	189	-22	-0.68%	3,231	72	15	0.47%	
Grace	956	62	16	1.70%	940	137	0	0.00%	
Grand View	478	120	1	0.21%	477	89	8	1.71%	
Grangeville	3,121	37	34	1.10%	3,087	75	13	0.42%	
Greenleaf	944	35	49	5.47%	895	79	11	1.24%	
Hagerman	823	95	3	0.37%	820	51	24	3.02%	
Hailey	8,075	28	82	1.03%	7,993	26	133	1.69%	
Hamer	12	147	0	0.00%	12	147	0	0.00%	
Hansen	1,051	49	23	2.24%	1,028	35	63	6.53%	
Harrison	288	94	4	1.41%	284	120	2	0.71%	
Hauser	770	96	3	0.39%	767	180	-4	-0.52%	
Hayden	13,190	15	268	2.07%	12,922	16	239	1.88%	
Hayden Lake	564	81	7	1.26%	557	128	1	0.18%	
Hazelton	771	44	27	3.63%	744	62	20	2.76%	
Heyburn	2,771	32	55	2.03%	2,716	69	17	0.63%	
Hollister	245	126	1	0.41%	244	132	1	0.41%	
Homedale	2,535	117	1	0.04%	2,534	56	23	0.92%	
Hope	86	142	0	0.00%	86	143	0	0.00%	
Horseshoe Bend	849	188	-20	-2.30%	869	187	-6	-0.69%	
Huetter	97	134	1	1.04%	96	160	-1	-1.03%	
Idaho City	475	182	-11	-2.26%	486	165	-1	-0.21%	
Idaho Falls	55,312	3	966	1.78%	54,346	6	1,089	2.04%	
Inkom	784	34	50	6.81%	734	43	33	4.71%	
Iona	1,359	43	27	2.03%	1,332	55	23	1.76%	
Irwin	183	88	5	2.81%	178	93	6	3.49%	
Island Park	281	113	2	0.72%	279	88	8	2.95%	
Jerome	9,593	12	393	4.27%	9,200	12	378	4.28%	
Juliaetta	604	99	3	0.50%	601	52	24	4.16%	
Kamiah	1,130	40	28	2.54%	1,102	166	-2	-0.18%	
Kellogg	2,177	195	-33	-1.49%	2,210	174	-2	-0.09%	
Kendrick	361	123	1	0.28%	360	71	15	4.35%	
Ketchum	3,376	31	57	1.72%	3,319	33	70	2.15%	

Kimberly	3,248	26	90	2.85%	3,158	28	126	4.16%	
Kooskia	654	89	4	0.62%	650	112	3	0.46%	
Kootenai	521	149	-1	-0.19%	522	123	2	0.38%	
Kuna	13,909	7	659	4.97%	13,250	11	566	4.46%	
Lapwai	1,129	77	8	0.71%	1,121	179	-4	-0.36%	
Lava Hot Springs	523	48	24	4.81%	499	84	9	1.84%	
Leadore	87	153	-1	-1.14%	88	136	1	1.15%	
Lewiston	31,887	17	226	0.71%	31,661	39	41	0.13%	
Lewisville	544	57	18	3.42%	526	67	18	3.54%	
Mackay	547	86	5	0.92%	542	83	10	1.88%	
Malad	2,130	39	29	1.38%	2,101	50	25	1.20%	
Malta	176	115	2	1.15%	174	108	4	2.35%	
Marsing	979	73	10	1.03%	969	61	22	2.32%	
McCall	2,554	198	-50	-1.92%	2,604	54	24	0.93%	
McCammon	865	41	28	3.35%	837	70	17	2.07%	
Melba	569	83	6	1.07%	563	80	11	1.99%	
Menan	746	47	24	3.32%	722	81	10	1.40%	
Meridian	68,516	1	2,139	3.22%	66,377	3	2,137	3.33%	
Middleton	5,781	16	240	4.33%	5,541	17	225	4.23%	
Midvale	211	129	1	0.48%	210	176	-3	-1.41%	
Minidoka	122	106	3	2.52%	119	139	0	0.00%	
Montpelier	2,350	180	-11	-0.47%	2,361	188	-7	-0.30%	
Moore	186	161	-2	-1.06%	188	151	0	0.00%	
Moscow	24,338	27	86	0.35%	24,252	200	-77	-0.32%	
Mountain Home	12,266	200	-84	-0.68%	12,350	20	182	1.50%	
Moyie Springs	731	97	3	0.41%	728	106	4	0.55%	
Mud Lake	297	74	10	3.48%	287	82	10	3.61%	
Mullan	733	183	-12	-1.61%	745	186	-6	-0.80%	
Murtaugh	149	140	0	0.00%	149	101	5	3.47%	
Nampa	81,241	5	875	1.09%	80,366	4	1,531	1.94%	
New Meadows	490	181	-11	-2.20%	501	96	6	1.21%	

New Plymouth	1,452	108	2	0.14%	1,450	95	6	0.42%
Newdale	351	159	-2	-0.57%	353	181	-4	-1.12%
Nezperce	504	71	12	2.44%	492	156	-1	-0.20%
Notus	624	138	0	0.00%	624	58	23	3.83%
Oakley	718	80	7	0.98%	711	74	14	2.01%
Oldtown	198	152	-1	-0.50%	199	135	1	0.51%
Onaway	226	128	1	0.44%	225	86	9	4.17%
Orofino	2,987	199	-53	-1.74%	3,040	197	-28	-0.91%
Osburn	1,363	190	-22	-1.59%	1,385	184	-5	-0.36%
Oxford	52	144	0	0.00%	52	145	0	0.00%
Paris	483	169	-4	-0.82%	487	191	-8	-1.62%
Parker	317	160	-2	-0.63%	319	164	-1	-0.31%
Parma	1,881	107	2	0.11%	1,879	37	45	2.45%
Paul	945	56	18	1.94%	927	97	5	0.54%
Payette	7,677	46	24	0.31%	7,653	66	18	0.24%
Peck	188	103	3	1.62%	185	158	-1	-0.54%
Pierce	514	179	-10	-1.91%	524	192	-8	-1.50%
Pinehurst	1,557	191	-23	-1.46%	1,580	46	29	1.87%
Placerville	56	155	-1	-1.75%	57	163	-1	-1.72%
Plummer	984	186	-18	-1.80%	1,002	103	5	0.50%
Pocatello	55,076	25	90	0.16%	54,986	14	333	0.61%
Ponderay	729	164	-3	-0.41%	732	116	3	0.41%
Post Falls	26,909	9	594	2.26%	26,315	8	1,004	3.97%
Potlatch	769	118	1	0.13%	768	44	33	4.49%
Preston	5,110	36	43	0.85%	5,067	27	133	2.70%
Priest River	1,969	174	-7	-0.35%	1,976	90	8	0.41%
Rathdrum	6,948	18	165	2.43%	6,783	19	208	3.16%
Reubens	72	116	2	2.86%	70	140	0	0.00%
Rexburg	28,856	11	397	1.39%	28,459	5	1,132	4.14%
Richfield	429	100	3	0.70%	426	138	0	0.00%
Rigby	3,531	21	117	3.43%	3,414	31	87	2.61%
Riggins	420	101	3	0.72%	417	121	2	0.48%

Ririe	559	72	11	2.01%	548	111	3	0.55%
Roberts	664	67	14	2.15%	650	104	4	0.62%
Rockland	312	139	0	0.00%	312	162	- 1	-0.32%
Rupert	5,225	24	98	1.91%	5,127	47	28	0.55%
Salmon	3,141	175	-9	-0.29%	3,150	40	39	1.25%
Sandpoint	8,370	68	13	0.16%	8,357	24	153	1.86%
Shelley	4,366	22	114	2.68%	4,252	30	99	2.38%
Shoshone	1,610	61	16	1.00%	1,594	110	3	0.19%
Smelterville	588	178	-10	-1.67%	598	155	0	0.00%
Soda Springs	3,101	54	20	0.65%	3,081	196	- 18	-0.58%
Spencer	35	145	0	0.00%	35	133	1	2.94%
Spirit Lake	1,755	42	27	1.56%	1,728	49	27	1.59%
St Anthony	3,447	136	0	0.00%	3,447	193	- 10	-0.29%
St Charles	130	132	1	0.78%	129	171	- 2	-1.53%
St Maries	2,609	197	-41	-1.55%	2,650	68	18	0.68%
Stanley	105	141	0	0.00%	105	114	3	2.94%
Star	5,085	30	73	1.46%	5,012	15	295	6.25%
State Line	62	143	0	0.00%	62	144	0	0.00%
Stites	226	114	2	0.89%	224	130	1	0.45%
Sugar	1,677	20	136	8.83%	1,541	63	19	1.25%
Sun Valley	1,483	79	7	0.47%	1,476	45	29	2.00%
Swan Valley	250	87	5	2.04%	245	92	6	2.51%
Tensed	124	163	-2	-1.59%	126	152	0	0.00%
Teton	671	137	0	0.00%	671	161	- 1	-0.15%
Tetonia	244	82	7	2.95%	237	168	- 2	-0.84%
Troy	808	85	5	0.62%	803	42	35	4.56%
Twin Falls	42,741	8	654	1.55%	42,087	10	731	1.77%
Ucon	1,099	64	15	1.38%	1,084	73	14	1.31%
Victor	1,883	60	16	0.86%	1,867	25	143	8.29%
Wallace	843	184	-13	-1.52%	856	189	- 7	-0.81%
Wardner	193	168	-3	-1.53%	196	154	0	0.00%
Warm River	10	148	0	0.00%	10	148	0	0.00%

Weippe	362	176	-9	-2.43%	371	185	- 6	-1.59%
Weiser	5,222	53	20	0.38%	5,202	198	- 38	-0.73%
Wendell	2,430	187	-20	-0.82%	2,450	65	19	0.78%
Weston	440	121	1	0.23%	439	91	7	1.62%
White Bird	106	133	1	0.95%	105	141	0	0.00%
Wilder	1,486	75	9	0.61%	1,477	38	42	2.93%
Winchester	302	78	8	2.72%	294	157	- 1	-0.34%
Worley	244	51	23	10.41%	221	126	1	0.45%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

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