

1950 CENSUS OF POPULATION

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CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION OF IDAHO: APRIL 1, 1950

(This is one of a series of reports presenting figures on selected characteristics of the population of the smaller States. In this series, reports are numbered alphabetically by States. Additional reports will be issued as figures for other States become available. Preliminary sample data for the larger States, not covered in this series, will be found in Series PC-6)

Gains in the population of Idaho between 1940 and 1950 were most marked among young children and elderly persons, according to figures from the 1950 Census of Population released today by Roy V. Peel, Director, Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. Although the total population of the State increased by 63,764, or 12.1 percent, during the decade, the number of children under 5 years of age increased by 20,480, or 39.3 percent, and the number of persons 65 years old and over increased by 37.3 percent. On the other hand, the number of persons 15 to 24 years of age decreased by 13.7 percent. In 1950 there were still more males than females in the population of Idaho, but the ratio of males per 100 females dropped from 111.4 in 1940 to 106.2 in 1950. Between 1940 and 1950, the nonwhite population of the State, which includes a considerable number of Indians, increased by 29.8 percent in contrast to an increase of 12.0 percent in the white population.

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS AND EXPLANATIONS

Urban and rural residence.--Under the urban definition established for use in the 1950 Census, the urban population comprises all persons living in (a) places of 2,500 inhabitants or more incorporated as cities, boroughs, towns,¹ and villages; (b) the densely settled urban fringe, including both incorporated and unincorporated areas, around cities of 50,000 or more; and (c) unincorporated

places of 2,500 inhabitants or more outside any urban fringe. The remaining population is classified as rural. According to the definition used in previous censuses, urban population comprised all persons living in incorporated places of 2,500 inhabitants or more and areas (usually minor civil divisions) classified as urban under special rules relating to population size and density.

Farm and nonfarm residence.--The rural population is subdivided into the rural-farm population, which comprises all rural residents living on farms, and the rural-nonfarm population, which comprises the remaining rural population. However, the method of determining farm and nonfarm residence in the 1950 Census differs somewhat from that used in earlier censuses. In the 1950 Census, persons on "farms" who were paying cash rent for their house and yard only were classified as nonfarm; furthermore, persons in institutions, summer camps, and tourist courts were classified as nonfarm.

Color.--The group designated as "nonwhite" consists of Negroes, Indians, Japanese, Chinese, and other nonwhite races. Persons of Mexican birth or ancestry who are not definitely Indian or of other nonwhite race are classified as white.

Age.--The age classification is based on the age of the person at his last birthday before the date of the census, that is, the age of the person in completed years. The median age may be defined as that age which divides the population into two equal groups--one-half being older and one-half younger than the median.

¹ Except in New England, New York, and Wisconsin, where "towns" are minor civil divisions of counties and are not necessarily densely settled centers like the towns in other States.

(over)

P R E L I M I N A R Y

Table 1.--COLOR BY SEX, FOR IDAHO, URBAN AND RURAL: 1950 AND 1940

Color and sex	The State			Urban, 1950	Rural, 1950	Percent distribution			
	1950	1940	Percent change, 1940 to 1950			The State		Urban, 1950	Rural, 1950
						1950	1940		
Total.....	588,637	524,873	12.1	252,549	336,088	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	581,395	519,292	12.0	250,871	330,524	98.8	98.9	99.3	98.3
Nonwhite.....	7,242	5,581	29.8	1,678	5,564	1.2	1.1	0.7	1.7
Male.....	303,237	276,579	9.6	125,755	177,482	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	299,323	273,512	9.4	124,823	174,500	98.7	98.9	99.3	98.3
Nonwhite.....	3,914	3,067	27.6	932	2,982	1.3	1.1	0.7	1.7
Female.....	285,400	248,294	14.9	126,794	158,606	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	282,072	245,780	14.8	126,048	156,024	98.8	99.0	99.4	98.4
Nonwhite.....	3,328	2,514	32.4	746	2,582	1.2	1.0	0.6	1.6

Table 2.--AGE BY SEX, FOR IDAHO, URBAN AND RURAL: 1950 AND 1940

Age and sex	The State			Urban, 1950	Rural nonfarm, 1950	Rural farm, 1950	Percent distribution				
	1950	1940	Per- cent change, 1940 to 1950				The State		Urban, 1950	Rural non- farm, 1950	Rural farm, 1950
							1950	1940			
Total population.....	588,637	524,873	12.1	252,549	171,128	164,960	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Percent by residence	100.0	...	...	42.9	29.1	28.0	...	...	...	...	...
Under 5 years.....	72,633	52,153	39.3	30,586	21,746	20,301	12.3	9.9	12.1	12.7	12.3
5 to 14 years.....	114,016	98,001	16.3	42,337	34,420	37,259	19.4	18.7	16.8	20.1	22.6
15 to 24 years.....	86,203	99,848	-13.7	38,442	23,752	24,009	14.6	19.0	15.2	13.9	14.6
25 to 34 years.....	88,154	83,107	6.1	40,880	25,756	21,518	15.0	15.8	16.2	15.1	13.0
35 to 44 years.....	79,200	62,728	26.3	34,221	23,116	21,863	13.5	12.0	13.6	13.5	13.3
45 to 54 years.....	57,931	56,600	2.4	24,490	16,096	17,345	9.8	10.8	9.7	9.4	10.5
55 to 64 years.....	46,962	40,736	15.3	20,352	13,235	13,375	8.0	7.8	8.1	7.7	8.1
65 years and over.....	43,538	31,700	37.3	21,241	13,007	9,290	7.4	6.0	8.4	7.6	5.6
Median age.....years..	27.4	26.5	...	28.6	27.2	25.4	...	...	...	...	...
Male.....	303,237	276,579	9.6	125,755	89,364	88,118	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years.....	36,910	26,631	38.6	15,447	11,133	10,330	12.2	9.6	12.3	12.5	11.7
5 to 14 years.....	58,266	49,733	17.2	21,347	17,563	19,356	19.2	18.0	17.0	19.7	22.0
15 to 24 years.....	42,930	51,053	-15.9	18,147	11,744	13,039	14.2	18.5	14.4	13.1	14.8
25 to 34 years.....	44,027	44,126	-0.2	20,458	12,829	10,740	14.5	16.0	16.3	14.4	12.2
35 to 44 years.....	41,539	33,095	25.5	17,462	12,430	11,647	13.7	12.0	13.9	13.9	13.2
45 to 54 years.....	30,845	30,572	0.9	12,362	8,942	9,541	10.2	11.1	9.8	10.0	10.8
55 to 64 years.....	25,065	23,174	8.2	10,044	7,279	7,742	8.3	8.4	8.0	8.1	8.8
65 years and over.....	23,655	18,195	30.0	10,488	7,444	5,723	7.8	6.6	8.3	8.3	6.5
Median age.....years..	28.1	27.5	...	28.9	28.3	26.2	...	...	...	...	...
Female.....	285,400	248,294	14.9	126,794	81,764	76,842	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years.....	35,723	25,522	40.0	15,139	10,613	9,971	12.5	10.3	11.9	13.0	13.0
5 to 14 years.....	55,750	48,268	15.5	20,990	16,857	17,903	19.5	19.4	16.6	20.6	23.3
15 to 24 years.....	43,273	48,795	-11.3	20,295	12,008	10,970	15.2	19.7	16.0	14.7	14.3
25 to 34 years.....	44,127	38,981	13.2	20,422	12,927	10,778	15.5	15.7	16.1	15.8	14.0
35 to 44 years.....	37,661	29,633	27.1	16,759	10,686	10,216	13.2	11.9	13.2	13.1	13.3
45 to 54 years.....	27,086	26,028	4.1	12,128	7,154	7,804	9.5	10.5	9.6	8.7	10.2
55 to 64 years.....	21,897	17,562	24.7	10,308	5,956	5,633	7.7	7.1	8.1	7.3	7.3
65 years and over.....	19,883	13,505	47.2	10,753	5,563	3,567	7.0	5.4	8.5	6.8	4.6
Median age.....years..	26.8	25.4	...	28.4	26.1	24.6	...	...	...	...	...