

IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

REFERENCE SERIES

ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF IDAHO'S POPULATION, 1860-1990 ESTIMATED

Number 996						January 1993
YEAR	INDIAN	CAU- CASIAN	ASIAN	AFRI- CAN	HIS- PANIC	TOTAL
1860	6,000	200				6,200
1863	4,400	20,400		100		24,900
1864	4,200	20,200	300	100		24,800
1870	4,200	13,466	4,274	60		22,000
1880	4,000	29,013	3,379	53		36,610
1890	4,223	82,017	2,007	201		88,548
1900	4,226	154,495	2,668	293		161,772
1910	3,488	319,221	2,234	651		325,594
1920	3,098	425,688	1,180	920		431,866
1930	3,638	438,840	1,886	668		445,032
1940	3,537	519,292	1,449	595		524,873
1950	3,800	581,395	2,392	1,050		588,637
1960	5,321	657,383	3,075	1,502		667,191
1970	6,687	698,802	2,959	2,130		712,567
1980	10,418	886,187	5,738	2,666	36,615	943,985
1990	12,478	928,661	9,053	3,370	52,927	1,006,749

1860 This Indian estimate is conservative. It reflects census totals after 1880. Some 200 settlers came to Franklin and Pierce, and several missionaries still remained.

1863 A September census omitted Franklin, Paris, and some scattered miners but recorded 20,116 in areas that remained in Idaho. Only 877 women and 512 children were included. An earlier 1863 census (adjusted for omissions) doubtless would have exceeded 40,000 before seasonal mining operations ended. Counting Indians, but omitting transient emigrants, all of Idaho's original territory (including Montana and practically all of Wyoming) approximated or exceeded 80,000 in population.

1864 A census count (18,977) omitted a still larger Mormon total that was thought to be within the boundaries of Utah.

1870 In order to include some scattered miners as well as many Mormon communities erroneously counted in Utah (adjusted slightly to compensate for rounding Idaho's total to 22,000), Idaho's Caucasian census figure is increased from 10,618 to 13,466. In 1870, only 47 of approximately 4,200 Indians were enumerated.

1880 Only 165 of about 4,000 Indians were recorded, but from 1890 on, most (but not all) were listed.

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