

# IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## REFERENCE SERIES

URBAN-RURAL DISTRIBUTION OF IDAHO POPULATION, 1900-1990  
 Number 1005 March 1993

### Percent

	Standard Metropolitan Areas over <u>100,000</u>	Cities 25,000- <u>100,000</u>	Places 8,000- <u>2,500</u>	Towns 4,000- <u>8,000</u>	Towns 2,500- <u>4,000</u>	<u>Rural</u>
1990				7	3	90
1910			9.4	4.8	8.5	77.3
1920			12.8	7.2	8.1	71.9
1930		6.1	13.6	3	7.6	69.7
1940		7.4	14.9	6	6.9	71.8
1950		14.1	16.9	6.3	5.1	57.6
1960		21.9	16.4	11.8	4.9	45
1970	15.7	14.7	16.3	4.8	6.8	42.7
1980	18.5	18.9	7.2	6	6.1	43.3
1990	20.4	21.7	7.5	4.8	4.6	40.9

### Population

1900				11,253	4,909
1910			30,475	15,806	27,624
1920			55,276	31,156	35,035
1930		27,236	60,573	13,574	33,796
1940		38,595	78,117	31,442	35,960
1950		82,738	99,313	37,135	29,854
1960		146,241	109,372	47,769	32,462
1970	112,230	104,804	116,201	34,008	48,642
1980	175,125	178,655	67,486	56,471	57,530
1990	205,775	218,215	75,479	48,686	46,523

Places with populations of more than 2,400 (in Moscow's case 2,484) were included in 1900 to reduce distortion.

A substantial proportion of Idaho's cities had a population decline between 1920 and 1930.

In 1980, smaller towns (below 2,500) and rural areas had absorbed a slightly larger proportion of Idaho's population growth than cities realized.

Because some census communities with populations less than 2,500 actually are parts of larger cities (or exceed 2,500 as an adjacent group), they are included in these tables as urban rather than rural, correcting census distortions.

*Publications--450 N. 4th Street, Boise, ID 83702--208-334-3428*