

## Working together to plan for the future

**News Release** 

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## COMPASS Board Accepts Annual Population Estimates: Ada and Canyon Counties Exceed 737,000

*Meridian, ID* – The Board of Directors of the Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho (COMPASS) accepted the 2020 population estimates for Ada and Canyon Counties in its Board meeting on April 20, 2020. The total population for Ada and Canyon Counties combined is estimated at 737,790 – an increase of over 25,000 from 2019.

COMPASS updates it population estimates as of April 1 of each year using the most recent decennial Census count as the base. Building from this, COMPASS updates the information using local building construction permits, revised household sizes and vacancy rates, and recent annexations (expansions of city limits).

For these 2020 estimates, COMPASS used the 2010 decennial Census count as the base, since 2020 Census data won't be available until 2021.

"The decennial Census counts are extremely important to our region for a myriad of reasons," states COMPASS Principal Planner Carl Miller. "Not the least of these is how they impact the accuracy of our annual population estimates. A complete count this year will be a key factor in ensuring our population estimates continue to be accurate for the next 10 years.

"The official 'Census Day' was April 1, but if you have not yet completed your Census form, it's not too late. I encourage you to do it right away. Your answers will help ensure the accuracy of the data local agencies use to plan for your future, as well as ensure Idaho receives its share of federal funding for programs that support healthcare, education, and more."

All households should have received a letter in the mail from the U.S. Census Bureau with instructions on how to complete the Census form. You can complete your Census form online, as well as find answers to frequently asked questions and learn what to do if you didn't receive, or lost, your notification at <a href="https://www.2020census.gov">www.2020census.gov</a>.

The 2020 population estimates, including individual estimates for each city and both counties, can be found on the COMPASS website at <a href="https://www.compassidaho.org">www.compassidaho.org</a>; follow link under "Hot Topics."

More information on how the 2020 Census will impact the Treasure Valley can be found at <a href="https://www.treasurevalleycensus.com">www.treasurevalleycensus.com</a>.