

Do you feel crowded?

Rexburg grows by 60 percent in seven years

MATT EICHNER
meichner@uvsj.com

REXBURG - There is plenty of evidence Rexburg is a growing city. One only has to look at the recently changed population signs entering town.

Last week, the Census Bureau confirmed that growth with its annual population estimates.

Rexburg grew by 517 people since July 2006, which was a 1.9 percent increase. The bureau estimates the current population to be 27,575, keeping Rexburg as the state's 10th largest city.

That also marks the growth since the census in 2000, which was indicated on the city's entryway signs at 17,257. That is a growth rate of 60 percent since 2000.

Rexburg Mayor Shawn Larsen says the growth in the city has been positive, since it has been well planned out.

"We're continuing to grow, I think, at a sustainable level," Larsen said. "As we grow, that growth complements our quality of life rather than detracting from it."

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Rexburg population growth since 2000

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
17,257	17,831	18,847	22,094	24,871	26,489	27,058	27,575

Boom Town

Growth in 2007

Who's Growing?

	Pop.	Percent
Rexburg	27,575	+1.9
St. Anthony	3,401	+0.4
Sugar City	1,521	+0.8
Teton	569	+0.5
Victor	1,559	+7.7
Driggs	1,291	+3.2
Island Park	281	+1.8
Menan	710	+0.7
Mud Lake	277	+2.6

ENTERING REXBURG

POP 26,657

Who's Not?

	Pop.	Percent
Ashton	1,088	-0.7
Newdale	354	-0.8
Parker	318	-0.6
Ririe	534	-0.2
Tetonia	235	-2.9

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

MATT EICHNER/Standard Journal

Idaho's five fastest growing cities by percentage

1. Star +17.7
2. Notus..... +10.9
3. Kimberly..... +8.7
4. Caldwell +7.8
5. (tie) Victor and Ammon... +7.7

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Growth: Population numbers get the city money

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Larsen said the city worked with the Census Bureau to measure growth based on building permits, and that the city is already preparing for the 2010 census by working with various entities like Brigham Young

University-Idaho to make sure there is an accurate count.

The population figures are important to receive money from the state in profit-sharing funds.

"The higher the population, the higher the shared amounts we receive from the

state of Idaho," Larsen said.

Most cities in the Madison and Fremont counties grew, with the notable exception of Ashton, which fell slightly during the year.

Victor had the highest growth rate in the area, with a 7.7 percent rate of growth.

Idaho Falls also had a 1.9 percent growth rate over that same time period. Boise remained the state's largest city at 202,832, but grew by 1.2 percent.

The state's fastest growing city was Star, which grew 17.7 percent over the past year.