Rexburg has the lowest city election turnout rate of any college town in the Mountain West

Scroll gathered voter data for seven college towns across the Midwest, each of which hold their mayoral elections on odd-numbered years. Elections for Congress and president occur on even-numbered years, which increase turnout.

The sample includes the

Some people blame the low voter turnout on BYU-Idaho students, who often never bother to move residency from their home state and don’t worry about the long-term effects of city policies.

However, that doesn’t explain the whole gap.

University of Idaho in Moscow, Idaho; BYU-Idaho in Rexburg, Idaho; Idaho State University in Pocatello, Idaho; Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana; Eastern Washington University in Cheney, Washington; Washington State University in Pullman, Washington; Utah State University in Logan, Utah,

College towns in Wyoming and eastern Oregon were omitted because their local elections coincide with national elections.

Compared to the other eight towns, Rexburg has an average amount of student residents.

However, it stands out when compared to voter turnout.

Looking only at voting-age residents who aren’t students, Rexburg scores dead last on voter turnout. \_\_% of people register and vote in the city elections.

QUOTE FROM BRENDA