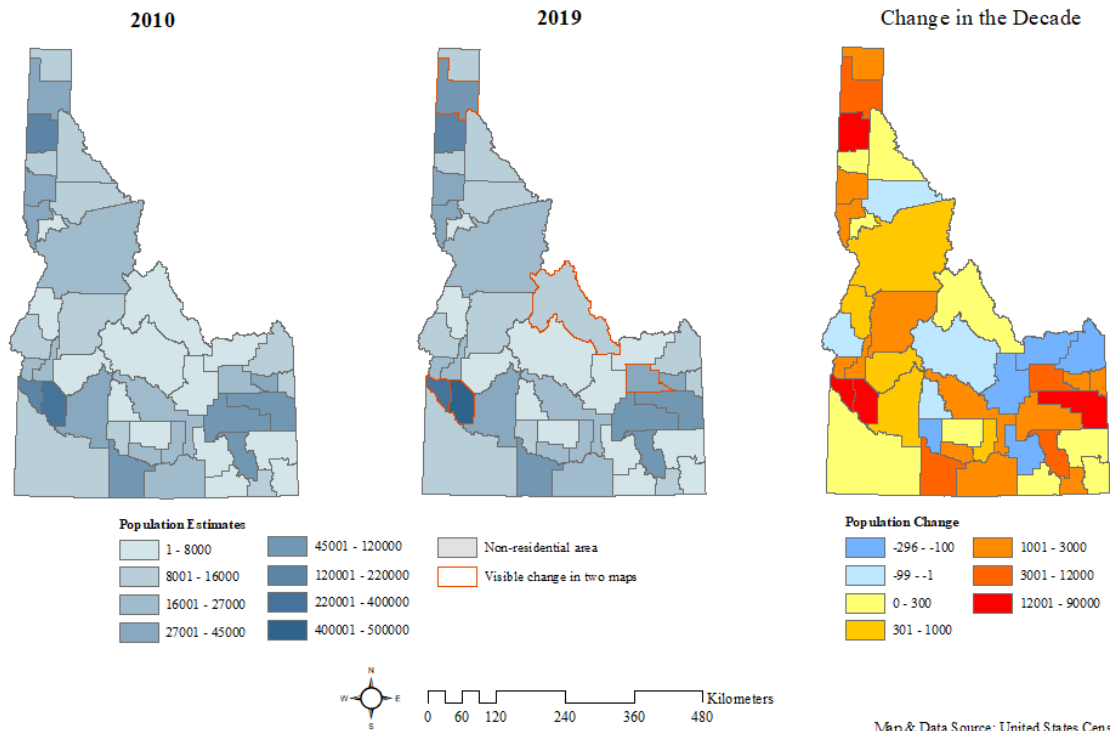


## Idaho's population growth is outpacing most western states during the past decade

By JIE XU Associated Press Mar 17, 2021



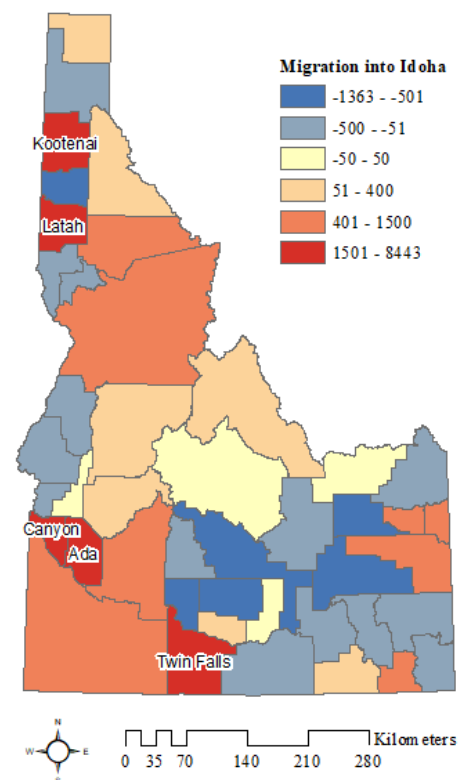
BOISE, Idaho (AP) — The Census Bureau released annual population estimates around the country in June, 2020. The statistics shows that Idaho's total population grew by 16% in 10 years, from April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2020. The number clearly outpaced the nationwide 6% population growth, and even higher than the average 9% growth among those western states.

The population of counties in Idaho is balanced pretty evenly, with some counties reflecting growth in population while others on the decrease. Among the Census statistics, the southwestern county of **Ada** had the highest growth rate as 22.7%, and its neighbouring county, **Canyon** also saw a high growth increase rate as 21.7%. County of Kootenai, Teton and Valley came as follow, all reaching a growth rate above 15%.

Migration plays an important part in the population growth. Despite that a large influx of immigrants drives population growth in other states, a net total of 19,116 Americans relocated to Idaho during the past decade. County of **Canyon** received 8,443 migrants, while **Ada** and **Kootenai** received more than 5,000 and 2,000 migrants respectively.

But can that growth be sustained?

Idaho may have the space, however, geography and its harsh landscape may be the barrier. The lack of diversity could be another long-standing social problem for the state. Idaho has long been among the 10 states that has a predominantly white population. The top ancestries of the state include German, English and Irish, but the phenomenon remains, which may cause potential social conflicts in today's context.



Map & Data Source: United States Census Bureau

The Migration flow align with its population growth.