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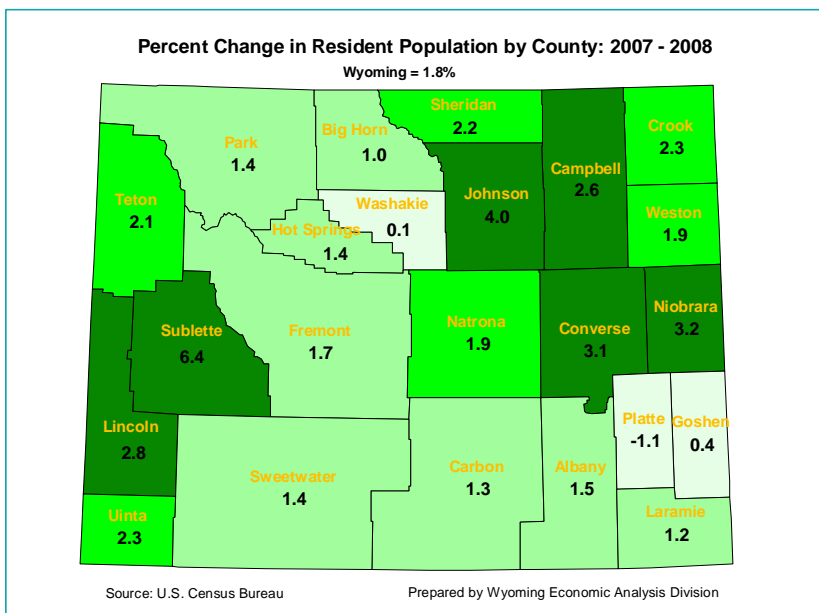
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Sublette County's Population Grew the Fastest in 2008

CHEYENNE -- Wyoming's total resident population reached 532,668 in July 2008, and it surpassed the previous year's record of 523,252, which is a revised figure, according to estimates just released by the U.S. Census Bureau. The annual increase from 2007 to 2008 was over 9,400 persons, or 1.8 percent. The estimated net migration, after accounting for the natural change (births and deaths), indicated that nearly 5,700 more persons moved into Wyoming than left the State during the year. The 7,900 births were 26 percent higher than that in 2000. Nationally, the population was estimated at 304.1 million in 2008, an increase of 0.9 percent from the previous year. Wyoming's growth rate was ranked 7th highest in the nation, higher than the northern and eastern neighboring states, but lower than the western and southern bordering states.

"Though the 1.8 percent population expansion in the State was slightly slower than the previous year's level of 2.1 percent, it was still the second fastest growth since 1982, the end year of the oil boom," said Wenlin Liu, senior economist with the Economic Analysis Division. "Wyoming's population growth is basically employment driven, so this was not a surprise because it was quite consistent with the State's strong job growth rate of 3.4 percent in 2008, which was fastest in the nation. People tend to move to areas where economies are viable," Liu said. Across the State, counties in the Northeast and Southwest with more mineral extraction, particularly natural gas, experienced both stronger employment and faster population growth, continuing the trend observed in recent years. Platte was the only county that recorded an annual population decline in 2008. Other small and rural counties without much mining explorations also experienced slower increases in population.



"The estimated population only includes residents, it does not count non-resident, or out-of- state workers, which have been contributing to a significant portion of the State's workforce, particularly in the mining (including oil and gas extraction) and construction industries. As the energy development slows down, some of those out-of-state workers may leave the State quickly," Liu commented. "However, the moderate job growth, plus a relatively low unemployment rate in the State should put Wyoming in an attractive position in terms of in-migration in the near future. As the rest of the nation, particularly California and Wyoming's neighboring states face increasing economic difficulties, some of their residents may choose the Cowboy State as their destination to relocate, and at the same time, discourage some Wyoming residents from moving away," Liu continued.

The complete figures are available online, <http://eadiv.state.wy.us/> or U.S. Census Bureau's website, <http://www.census.gov/>

Table 1: Annual Estimates of the Population for Counties of Wyoming: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2008

Area	Population estimates								Census April 1, 2000	Change, 2007 to 2008		Change, 2000 to 2008	
	July 1, 2008	July 1, 2007	July 1, 2006	July 1, 2005	July 1, 2004	July 1, 2003	July 1, 2002	July 1, 2001		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Wyoming	532,668	523,252	512,573	506,007	502,816	499,056	496,969	492,924	493,782	9,416	1.8	38,886	7.9
Albany	32,758	32,288	32,613	32,507	32,681	32,436	32,249	32,201	32,014	470	1.5	744	2.3
Big Horn	11,322	11,215	11,099	11,107	11,184	11,055	11,163	11,224	11,461	107	1.0	-139	-1.2
Campbell	41,473	40,433	38,456	37,021	36,224	36,061	35,854	34,519	33,698	1,040	2.6	7,775	23.1
Carbon	15,624	15,420	15,056	15,036	15,202	15,197	15,233	15,189	15,639	204	1.3	-15	-0.1
Converse	13,267	12,870	12,619	12,447	12,240	12,149	12,153	11,979	12,052	397	3.1	1,215	10.1
Crook	6,457	6,313	6,075	6,013	5,927	5,887	5,865	5,747	5,887	144	2.3	570	9.7
Fremont	38,113	37,461	36,770	36,273	35,941	35,797	35,800	35,607	35,804	652	1.7	2,309	6.4
Goshen	12,072	12,020	12,010	12,073	12,157	12,135	12,219	12,389	12,538	52	0.4	-466	-3.7
Hot Springs	4,622	4,558	4,529	4,510	4,557	4,580	4,714	4,754	4,882	64	1.4	-260	-5.3
Johnson	8,464	8,139	7,808	7,645	7,522	7,472	7,355	7,156	7,075	325	4.0	1,389	19.6
Laramie	87,542	86,480	85,890	85,304	85,210	84,289	83,135	82,380	81,607	1,062	1.2	5,935	7.3
Lincoln	16,631	16,172	15,741	15,348	15,093	14,788	14,643	14,588	14,573	459	2.8	2,058	14.1
Natrona	73,129	71,784	70,220	69,408	68,637	67,939	67,353	66,863	66,533	1,345	1.9	6,596	9.9
Niobrara	2,428	2,352	2,235	2,225	2,245	2,223	2,245	2,324	2,407	76	3.2	21	0.9
Park	27,574	27,181	26,767	26,355	26,057	25,950	25,735	25,675	25,786	393	1.4	1,788	6.9
Platte	8,294	8,387	8,437	8,472	8,570	8,578	8,702	8,738	8,807	-93	-1.1	-513	-5.8
Sheridan	28,662	28,037	27,477	27,140	26,997	26,969	26,872	26,647	26,560	625	2.2	2,102	7.9
Sublette	8,456	7,948	7,238	6,876	6,573	6,318	6,145	5,897	5,920	508	6.4	2,536	42.8
Sweetwater	39,944	39,376	38,001	37,308	36,883	36,576	36,838	36,568	37,613	568	1.4	2,331	6.2
Teton	20,376	19,958	19,588	19,264	19,184	18,852	18,699	18,578	18,251	418	2.1	2,125	11.6
Uinta	20,617	20,155	19,688	19,429	19,418	19,439	19,565	19,405	19,742	462	2.3	875	4.4
Washakie	7,821	7,816	7,675	7,762	7,754	7,821	7,891	8,023	8,289	5	0.1	-468	-5.6
Weston	7,022	6,889	6,581	6,484	6,560	6,545	6,541	6,473	6,644	133	1.9	378	5.7

Source: Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau

Table 2: Estimates of the Components of Change: July 1, 2007 to July 1, 2008

Area	Total Population Change*	Natural Increase			Net Migration		
		Total	Births	Deaths	Total	Net International Migration	Net Domestic Migration
Wyoming	9,416	3,826	7,907	4,081	5,692	302	5,390
Albany	470	257	424	167	236	54	182
Big Horn	107	31	158	127	77	4	73
Campbell	1,040	523	722	199	511	12	499
Carbon	204	104	224	120	120	3	117
Converse	397	74	171	97	316	4	312
Crook	144	46	99	53	107	3	104
Fremont	652	285	645	360	371	6	365
Goshen	52	14	135	121	48	1	47
Hot Springs	64	-17	43	60	78	1	77
Johnson	325	26	100	74	305	2	303
Laramie	1,062	645	1,339	694	431	54	377
Lincoln	459	162	292	130	314	1	313
Natrona	1,345	524	1,102	578	830	32	798
Niobrara	76	1	20	19	72	-	72
Park	393	96	333	237	276	7	269
Platte	-93	-13	82	95	-70	4	-74
Sheridan	625	110	387	277	510	10	500
Sublette	508	70	127	57	437	2	435
Sweetwater	568	440	692	252	135	15	120
Teton	418	206	284	78	223	73	150
Uinta	462	216	345	129	255	11	244
Washakie	5	20	101	81	-14	3	-17
Weston	133	6	82	76	124	-	124

Table 3: Cumulative Estimates of the Components Chge: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2008

Area	Total Population Change*	Natural Increase			Net Migration		
		Total	Births	Deaths	Total	Net International Migration	Net Domestic Migration
Wyoming	38,886	23,970	57,611	33,641	17,347	2,125	15,222
Albany	744	1,792	3,272	1,480	-856	473	-1,329
Big Horn	-139	82	1,173	1,091	-162	42	-204
Campbell	7,775	3,486	4,944	1,458	4,421	121	4,300
Carbon	-15	481	1,611	1,130	-401	51	-452
Converse	1,215	532	1,258	726	730	25	705
Crook	570	199	609	410	412	32	380
Fremont	2,309	1,548	4,555	3,007	934	45	889
Goshen	-466	39	1,115	1,076	-435	-5	-430
Hot Springs	-260	-151	360	511	-95	13	-108
Johnson	1,389	20	643	623	1,399	2	1,397
Laramie	5,935	4,650	10,306	5,656	1,666	-36	1,702
Lincoln	2,058	982	1,939	957	1,185	-1	1,186
Natrona	6,596	3,238	8,104	4,866	3,705	279	3,426
Niobrara	21	-70	148	218	98	5	93
Park	1,788	438	2,366	1,928	1,461	52	1,409
Platte	-513	-74	704	778	-378	39	-417
Sheridan	2,102	324	2,706	2,382	1,914	72	1,842
Sublette	2,536	303	708	405	2,248	7	2,241
Sweetwater	2,331	2,971	5,084	2,113	-500	120	-620
Teton	2,125	1,437	2,042	605	817	666	151
Uinta	875	1,590	2,575	985	-622	85	-707
Washakie	-468	141	821	680	-576	38	-614
Weston	378	12	568	556	382	-	382

*Total population change includes residual - see "State and County Terms & Definitions"

Source: Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau

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